

The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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Contents

TOPICS OF THE DAY:

A New Phase of the Lynching Problem	241
Should the United States Intervene in South America?	242
South American Troubles in Caricature	242
New York Political Situation in Cartoon	243
Trade-Union Contracts in the Steel Strike	243
A Renaissance of Highway Robbery	244
A Victory for the American Locomotive	244
Reflections on the Pension Payments	245
Cartoons: Sir Thomas and the Cup	245
The Franko-Turkish Tiff	246
Progress of the Merit System	246
Eleven Thousand Boers Left	246
The Boers as Seen by Webster Davis	247
Topics in Brief	247

LETTERS AND ART:

Is Kipling's Power Declining?	248
Dramatic Criticism and "the Uncritical Public"	248
Professor Triggs and Literary Values	249
National Traits as Reflected by Music	250
The Poet-Laureate	250
Tolstoy on Modern Literature	251
Real Characters in Fiction	251

SCIENCE AND INVENTION:

Thunderst.	252
Persistence . . . Taste as a Test of Indigestibility	253
Death of a Great Arctic Explorer	253
Uses of the Human Ear	254
Electric Lights of a City Extinguished by Flies	254
Draining the Zuider Zee	255

Roof-Gardens on Private Houses	255
Prehistoric Glaciers	255
Sensitiveness of the Telephone	255
Science Brevities	255

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD:

Sikhism: the Creed of a Militant Race	256
The Hardships of Priests	256
Music in the Church	257
A Christian Church Edifice Fourteen Centuries Old	257
German Reaction against the Higher Criticism	258
The American Standard Revision of the Bible	258
Religious Notes	259

FOREIGN TOPICS:

Francesco Crispi and What he Stood For	260
A Step toward Press Reform in Russia	260
Comments on the Death of the Empress Frederick	261
Foreign Comment on the Steel Strike	262
Polish Victories over Germany	262
Cooperative Industry Legalized in Russia	263
Strikes in Germany	263
Foreign Notes	263

MISCELLANEOUS:

The House of Rothschild	264
Correspondents' Corner	264
Gifts to Colleges.	
Is Mozoomdar a Christian?	
Current Poetry	265
More or Less Pungent	266
Current Events	267
Chess	269

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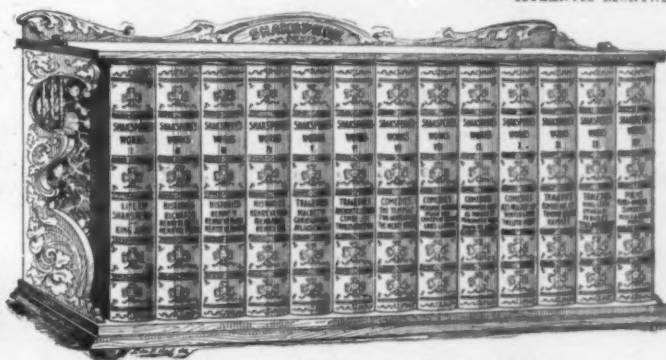
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The Literary Digest

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

A NEW PHASE OF THE LYNCHING PROBLEM.

WITHIN the last two or three weeks eight prisoners in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Texas have been saved from lynching by the courage and determination of the local sheriffs. The similarity of these widely separated events, the active opposition of Governor Candler, of Georgia, Governor Longino, of Mississippi, and ex-Governor Jones, of Alabama, against lynching, and the resolution of the Alabama Constitutional Convention, giving the governor power to remove any sheriff who permits one of his prisoners to be lynched, are all taken as "a most healthful indication," to quote the *Philadelphia Press*, "of the growth of a public opinion in the South in favor of law and order." The action of the sheriffs is especially significant, adds the same paper, "as upon the sheriffs rests the enforcement of the law, and as their attitude reflects local sentiment more nearly than the governors'."

On Thursday of last week in Asheville, Ala., a mob of 400 men tried to lynch a negro who had just been sentenced to death after "one of the swiftest and fairest trials ever witnessed," as the despatches from Asheville declare, and after a strong appeal from the father of the negro's victim to let the law take its course. Sheriff North and twenty-eight deputies defended the court-house against the mob, and after considerable firing on both sides the mob retired with the loss of its two leaders, two brothers who "had been in town since Monday trying to stir up the trouble." One of the brothers was killed and the other desperately wounded. A driving rain helped to dampen the mob's ardor, and while they were considering a second attack the prisoner was hurried out by a rear door and taken safely to Birmingham. In Tuscaloosa, Ala., on August 15, Sheriff Kyle, after being surprised and overpowered by a mob of fifty men bent on lynching a negro prisoner, secured a shotgun by a ruse and drove the entire mob out of the jail. On the same night a mob of 300

men tried to take a negro from the jail at Charlotte, N. C., but "on a show of strength by the guards," says the press despatch, "they finally dispersed." The next night a mob in Sardis, Miss., gathered to lynch a negro who was in jail there. Sheriff Mitchell, however, had secured a company of militia from Governor Longino, and the company stood guard all night "while the mob hooted and howled on the outside." The despatch adds the interesting information that "this is the first time in Mississippi that the militia has rescued a negro from would-be lynchers," and the governor, it says, "extended his congratulations to the company." Sheriff Fly, of Gonzales, Texas, recently dispersed a similar mob who wanted to lynch a Mexican. "I value my honor as an officer and a man more than life itself," he declared, as he stood with revolver in hand, and the mob retired. "Nerve staggers a mob," says the *Houston Post*, commenting on the sheriff's action. Sheriff J. H. Dukes, of Orangeburg, S. C., gave another illustration of the same spirit two or three weeks ago when the governor of the State, fearing that a negro in Sheriff Duke's jail might be lynched, asked the sheriff if he did not think it would be wise to remove the prisoner to a safer place. The sheriff, it is reported, replied that he had the prisoner in jail, and that the jail was made for the purpose of confining criminals, and he went on to say that if extreme measures became necessary he would promptly resort to them, and "if some people get hurt it will be their own fault." When this declaration became known, the lynching talk died out. In the neighboring State of Georgia Sheriff Joseph Merrill, a few days before Sheriff Duke's experience, faced a lynching mob with equal courage shown by the other officers mentioned above, and with equal success. In Lebanon, Ky., on Friday of last week, Officer Brent opened fire on a lynching mob that was battering in the jail doors, and the mob took to their heels before anybody was hit. "It is evident," remarks the *Salt Lake Herald*, "that the repugnance which the calmer element in the South must always have felt for such atrocities has, by the frequency with which crimes of this nature are committed, been aroused to a pitch where active steps will be taken to stem the tide of brutality, which, while it shows no good effect in restraining the blacks, is debauching and brutalizing the whites."

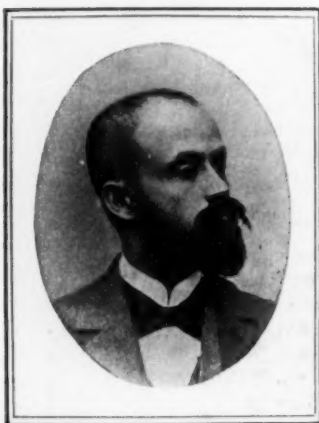
The Southern papers give these sheriffs as much praise as the papers of the North. The *Birmingham Age-Herald*, for example, says of Sheriff Kyle, of Tuscaloosa:

"The State of Alabama needs more Sheriff Kyles. She may not need sixty-five more, for she may have a few like him on hand, but no doubt she lacks a goodly number of such men. In every instance courage on the part of a sheriff has proven sufficient. The members of a lynching bee have no expectation of encountering personal risks. They are looking for excitement and a frolic, not for battle, and when a sheriff does his duty they go away. They went away in Carroll County, Ga., and in Charlotte, N. C., and they dispersed themselves in our own Tuscaloosa County.

"The Constitutional Convention located the trouble, when it practically called upon sheriffs to defend their prisoners against mob action. Sheriff Kyle shows how it can be done when a mob seizes upon a favorable occasion for mischief and an outrage against law and the State's good name. Sheriff Kyle deserves special honor, and the law-abiding people of Tuscaloosa County will let a rare occasion go unimproved if they do not act up to their opportunity."

SHOULD THE UNITED STATES INTERVENE IN SOUTH AMERICA?

THE continuation of hostilities between Venezuela and Colombia, accompanied by frequent clashes between armed bands and great internal disturbance in the territory affected, has excited some apprehension both in this country and in Europe as to future developments among the South American republics. In Europe, the opinion is freely expressed that the United States meditates intervention and even territorial acquisition in South America. The *Berliner Tageblatt* remarks that



PRESIDENT CASTRO, OF VENEZUELA.
Courtesy of *El Economista Internacional*,
New York.

Señor Castro, President of Venezuela, may yet prove to be the rock against which the Monroe doctrine will be shattered. The *Vossische Zeitung* (Berlin) goes so far as to say that the United States Government has encouraged the present outbreak and is fanning the flames "in order to have a pretext for military intervention." Some of the London papers take a similar view. "Unless orderly government is established on a firm foundation," observes *The Daily Graphic*, "the eventual permanent intervention of the United States will become inevitable."

These European comments, it is said, have provoked both irritation and amusement at Washington. "They show," says the Washington correspondent of the *Philadelphia Public Ledger* (Ind.), "that the attitude of the United States is not at all understood in the European capitals. No one was more amused than the diplomatic representatives of the Central and South American republics. These gentlemen and their governments thoroughly understand the motives of the United States, and do

not share the fears of Europe that the Government at Washington is dreaming of territorial acquisitions south of the Rio Grande." "This European talk about the United States's alleged purpose to appropriate territory in Central or South America," adds the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* (Rep.), in the same strain, "is too foolish to demand much attention in this country."

At the same time, the United States Government is blamed in many quarters for its "dilatatory policy," and while undoubtedly the great majority of American papers are decidedly opposed to any entanglement in the South American embroglio, there are a few which favor aggressive action and armed intervention. "Under similar but less threatening conditions," says the *Chicago Chronicle* (Dem.), "President Cleveland acted instantly. He considered only his duty under the treaty. President McKinley seems to be much afraid that he will be suspected of sinister designs if he acts in like manner. He does not seem to understand that there is far greater danger not only of misunderstanding, but of actual collision, in delay than in prompt and decisive action." The *New York Journal* (Dem.) declares:

"Our Government has not shown a sense of its responsibilities in this South American trouble. With sixty or seventy modern ships to call upon, it has not one within a thousand miles of the Isthmus of Panama, altho we are now a Caribbean power, and one of our greatest naval stations is on the edge of the West Indies. And when we do finally make a belated move to fulfil our treaty obligations as the guardians of the neutrality of the Isthmus, we send two toy gunboats, one in the Atlantic and one in the Pacific, each capable, on a pinch, of putting ashore a landing party of perhaps fifty men."

"We must do something more than that if we are to make good our claim to the leadership of the Western hemisphere."

The *New York Herald* (Ind.) says:

"It is a surgical operation that is called for, not remedial measures; the time for them will come when the root of the evil has been extirpated."

"A nation of eighty millions of people can not allow their supremacy on the American continent to be endangered without lifting a hand. Their economic and political interests must be defended, whether closet diplomatists like it or not. A halt



THERE SEEMS TO BE A SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN IN THE MELON PATCH.
—The *St. Paul Pioneer Press*.



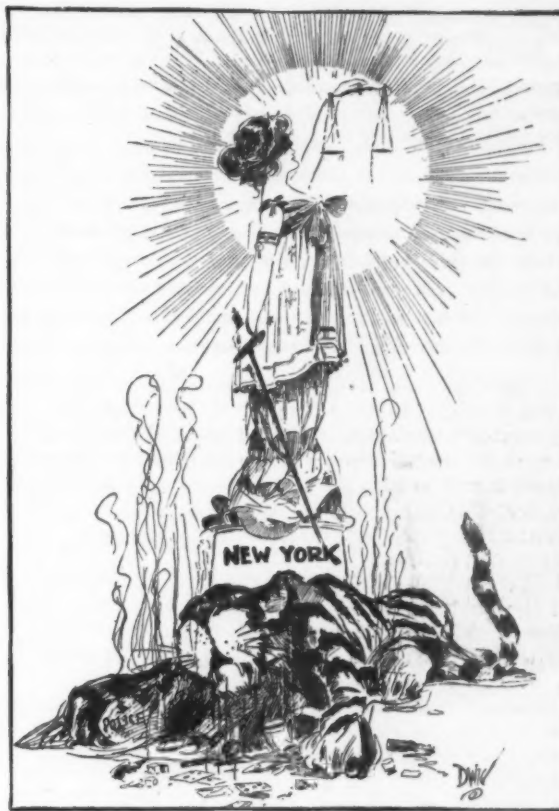
THE EAGLE: "What you folks want is to get together and have an Uncle Sam of your own."
—The *Minneapolis Journal*.

SOUTH AMERICAN TROUBLES IN CARICATURE.



THE DELUGE.

—The New York Herald.



"THE LADY OR THE TIGER?"

—The Philadelphia Inquirer.

NEW YORK POLITICAL SITUATION IN CARTOON.

must be called to the high-handed brigandage that, if unsuppressed, is fraught with a menace to the United States."

The St. Paul *Dispatch* (Rep.) goes a step farther, and declares its belief that South America will be the field of "our next expansion." "It is foreign to the scheme of things," it says, "that a people so indolent, so unprogressive, so incapable of government as the Latins of South and Central America should be permitted to retain occupation of a land so rich, so fertile, so capable of wealth production as is the southern continent." It is the "manifest destiny," thinks *The Dispatch*, "of this nation, as the foremost of the expanding Anglo-Saxon peoples, to possess the Western hemisphere."

TRADE-UNION CONTRACTS IN THE STEEL STRIKE.

AN interesting problem in trade-union ethics, and one that has aroused wide discussion in the press, is raised by the refusal of the South Chicago steel-workers to respond to President Shaffer's strike order, on the ground that it would involve a breach of contract with their employers. The South Chicago lodges of the Amalgamated Association, in a resolution making public their decision, declare that "owing to the existing contract between our lodges and the Illinois Steel Company we are justified in standing by our contracts," adding that "owing to a ruling of President Garland in 1897—that the association never broke an agreement—we do not wish to bring the Amalgamated Association into disrepute with our employers, all labor organizations, or the general public by breaking a contract at this time." The contract in question was one providing that there shall be no change in wages, hours, or conditions of employment without one side or the other giving three months' notice. A similar contract existed in the mills at Joliet and Bay View, Milwaukee, and the men in these cities at first took the same

position as the South Chicago workers, but later reversed their decision as the result of a visit from National Secretary Tighe.

The course of the Joliet and Milwaukee workers in going out on strike, in spite of their contracts, is almost universally condemned in severe terms by the daily papers. "If their view prevails," remarks the *Boston Journal*, "a contract which employers may make with men who are members of a union is binding on one side only. The employers are held by it, but the men may break it without scruple when their union directs them to." "The example set by the men of South Chicago is a most impressive one," adds the *Chicago Chronicle*; "it stands for common sense and common honesty as against violence, irresponsibility, and mischief. In deciding to consult their own interests and to observe their contract obligations they have placed themselves upon a much higher plane than that occupied by Mr. Shaffer or any of his representatives."

The New York *Commercial Advertiser* thinks that the unionists who did break their contracts have struck a serious blow at the whole principle of labor organization, and it adds:

"What now will be the practical results of their action? It undoubtedly will encourage those who are now on strike to continue the struggle, when if there had been no defection among the Western lodges their enthusiasm would have been dampened. In this way the contest is likely to be prolonged for a greater length of time than seemed probable at the outset of the week. But it means a very much worse position for the Amalgamated Association when they are forced, as inevitably they must, to settle on the corporation's terms. Any proposition to take the men back in a body as union men will be out of the question. The companies would reply that a promise or agreement with a labor-union is worthless, and nobody could gainsay the assertion. The men would have to come back as individuals with their wages fixed by individual contract, or they would not come back at all. Had the employees of the Joliet mills possessed the moral courage, not to say good sense, of their associates at South Chicago, the labor organization in the Illinois steel-mills would not

only have remained, but would have strengthened itself by acquiring a stronger claim on the confidence of the company officials. There is no stopping-point now short of the utter extermination of the Amalgamated Association, and Shaffer has made this issue the clearer by casting out of the union all those who are not willing to violate their wage contracts."

As the reversal of the decision of the Joliet and Milwaukee workers was brought about by the visit of National Secretary Tighe, the arguments that he used are of considerable interest, especially in view of the fact that his position is undoubtedly that of the strikers, and probably represents also the attitude of President Shaffer. In an account of his Western mission printed in the *New York Sun*, he is quoted as saying:

"The Chicago men hesitated to come out because of the contract which existed between the Federal Steel Company and the Amalgamated Association. When I reached there and held a meeting of the men, I found a good many held to the belief that they were bound to keep the contract with the company in spite of the fact that the company had declared that it would not henceforth recognize the Amalgamated Association, which was a party to that contract.

"I told them that the United States Steel Corporation had declared it would not recognize the union which had made the agreement. There could not possibly be a contract in force, for one of the parties to the contract denied the existence of the other. . . .

"I informed them that the creator of a contract was always greater than the contract itself, and that their vow to the Amalgamated Association was far more to be observed than a later agreement.

"I asked them, if they had a contract to furnish projectiles for two years to the English Government, and if during that time the United States should engage in war with Great Britain, whether they would consider the contract with the foreign government superior to loyalty and duty to their country. I said that in one case they would be furnishing ammunition to the enemy to destroy, bombard, and devastate the land of their birth or adoption.

"I claimed that it was a parallel case with our present fight. The United States Steel Corporation has waged war, is now bombarding our strongholds, and is trying to crush our organization. I told them, and told them forcibly, that they were furnishing the ammunition to assist in the destruction of the body to which they gave their solemn allegiance."

The question of incorporation for labor organizations has become a prominent one, on account of the present controversy. As voluntary associations of workingmen, the trade-unions have been without standing in court, and could neither sue or be sued. "It is very possible that one outcome of the strike," observes the *Washington Times*, "will be that the question of recognition of the great labor-unions by industrial corporations will turn upon the willingness of the former to assume legal responsibility for their actions by becoming incorporated bodies." President Shaffer, when approached on this subject, replied that he had not given it consideration. "I will say this," he added; "the Amalgamated will consider incorporation after the scale agreements have been signed. We are ready to do what is right, but we do not propose to become entangled in any legal meshes."

A Renaissance of Highway Robbery.—The stage-coach robber used to be considered a purely Western product, and is so far the relic of a bygone age that one would hardly have expected him to outlive the nineteenth century. Yet he turned up again recently, "holding up" coaches in the Adirondacks and California on the same day, terrorizing the passengers, and filling his pockets with the jewelry and money of his victims. The *Baltimore Sun* moralizes on the subject as follows:

"It is not to be assumed that there is anything admirable in the highwayman who holds up a stage-coach. He may be handsome and debonaire; he may sometimes spare the ladies' purses

while compelling the frightened male passengers to part with their wealth. He may appear to impressionable persons to be a fascinating fellow—perhaps the scion of some good family gone wrong—but for all that he ought to dangle at rope's end just as soon as the law will permit. It is true that the highwayman does very little injury to the public when his operations are compared with the gigantic schemes to swindle by which the unwary are continually victimized. Wall Street probably dips deeper into the pockets of the unsophisticated every year than all the highwaymen that ever carried on business in this country, from colonial days to the present time. The armies of the 'Christian nations' which recently invaded China carried away more plunder than all the stage-coach robbers of history. But Wall Street and the armies of the 'Christian nations' do their looting under the protection of the law, whereas the highwayman is outside the pale of the law and must be sternly discouraged. Highway robbery has declined as an industry, not, perhaps, because men are better than they were in the last century, but because holding up stage-coaches is a crude and ineffective way of acquiring wealth. There is no use for a man to risk his neck in such perilous enterprises for the sake of a few hundred dollars when great fortunes are made, without breaking the statutes, by modern methods of 'holding up' the public."

A VICTORY FOR THE AMERICAN LOCOMOTIVE.

ANOTHER incident in the fight the American locomotive is making for supremacy over locomotives built in England occurred in Jamaica, a British colony, last week, with "a great victory" for the American machine, as press despatches put it. This is the second test of the respective merits of American and British locomotives that has been made in Jamaica, and both tests have resulted the same way. In the present test the American engine "drew 126 tons over the heaviest part of the line in seven minutes under schedule time," while the English locomotive (which cost twice as much) "completely failed to pull the same load, and when materially lightened failed to make even regular time." The English experts who were present, we are told, experienced "a great disappointment," and the Jamaica government "is expected to make strong representations to the crown agents in London who arranged the purchases." The *New York Journal of Commerce* says:

"The English engine-builders sent some of their experts to the island in June, and of course they were bound to get the necessary work out of their machines if it were possible. This last trial has resulted like all the others, the first of which occurred in April or perhaps March, in the utter discomfiture of the British engines, tho they cost fully twice as much as the American engines and were specially designed by an English expert for the work they would have to do, the leading feature of which is running over a very steep grade."

The *Chicago Tribune* remarks on the difference between American and British locomotives:

"An English engine, built in 1870, has run 4,000,000 miles and is still in service. The managers of the road to which it belongs are proud of this record. In the United States a first-class passenger-engine makes from 100,000 to 110,000 miles a year, and at the end of twenty years is supposed to be ready for the scrap heap. Seemingly, Americans are more extravagant than British railway managers, but the former do not think they are. They believe their policy is the more economical one.

"As soon as a locomotive is put in service in this country it is pushed as hard as is possible in doing profitable work, on the assumption that by the time it has been driven to death there will be so many improvements in locomotives that it will be uneconomical to keep the old one in service even if it can be rebuilt. Thus when slaves were cheap a Cuban planter would reason that it was more economic to work a slave to death and buy a new one than to exact less labor from a slave and thus have his services for a longer time.

"In England an engine is taken great care of. It is rested occasionally. Its life is prolonged as much as possible. Hence

it is that an engine can be kept in service for thirty years. The men at the head of American railways contend that so old an engine must be an expensive one because it can not do the cheaper work a modern engine is capable of. The American policy is vindicated by its results. Freight rates on American roads have gone down because of the fearless use of mechanical improvements by their managers. Freight rates in England are high, and do not come down. One reason is that the managers of English roads have false ideas of economy."

REFLECTIONS ON THE PENSION PAYMENTS.

THE preliminary report of Pension Commissioner Evans for the year ending June 30 last brings out the usual number of protests from the daily papers against the alleged frauds that are perpetrated against the Government by dishonest pensioners. Many papers note that more names are on the pension roll than were on the army roll at the end of the Civil War, and that our total annual military and naval expenditure (\$386,000,000), of which the pension expenditure (\$140,000,000) forms a large part, is double the largest military expenditure of any European country. The *New York Mail and Express* also thinks that "it is a somewhat startling fact that, tho the Civil War is now thirty-six years away, the pension roll has grown in cost during the last four years faster than it has grown in any preceding four years." The *Philadelphia Record* notes and comments upon some of the features of the report as follows:

"The report of the commissioner of pensions shows that 997,735 persons are on the rolls. There was a net gain of 4,206 for the past governmental year, after deducting losses resulting from death and otherwise. On June 30 there were 403,569 claims for an increase of pension. The fact that Commissioner Evans issued during the year 109,668 certificates, 4,000 more than were issued before in any one year, is at once a dismaying fact to the taxpayers of the country and to the carpers of the Grand Army of the Republic.

"The Civil War ended thirty-six years ago, but we are now paying five dollars where we paid one at the end of President Grant's second administration. The total payments for pensions since July, 1865, have been \$2,666,904,589. Two prices could have been paid out of this vast sum of money for every slave in the Southern States at the outset of the war, and enough left over to have given each slave family forty acres of land and a mule."

While most of the papers are commenting on the size of the expenditure, the *Boston Herald* remarks that the greatest evil of the situation is not the cost of it in money, but "it is the cost

in public morality, the spreading conception of government as an eleemosynary institution from which it is right to filch whatever one can, by any false pretences that are unlikely to be exposed." Most of the praise for Commissioner Evans's administration of the pension office seems to come from the belief that he keeps a vigilant guard against such impostors, and *The Army and Navy Journal* expresses the conviction that "the true old-soldier sentiment of this country favors an administration of our pension laws so honest and exact that it will make it as difficult as possible to secure pensions for bummers and dead-beats, the bounty-jumpers and the coffee-coolers of the Civil War. They believe that our pension laws have been, if anything, too liberal, and they have some measure of sympathy for the taxpayers who are patiently bearing their burden of a pension list approaching \$150,000,000 a year."

The National Tribune, of Washington, the most prominent G. A. R. organ in the country, says of the report:

"The first thing that strikes one in reading this is that the veterans of the rebellion are not given the benefits of this increase of 4,206 on the pension roll. Nearly the whole went to the survivors—and they nearly all survive—of the Spanish war. They got 3,849 of the total of 4,206, or over 90 per cent. of the gain.

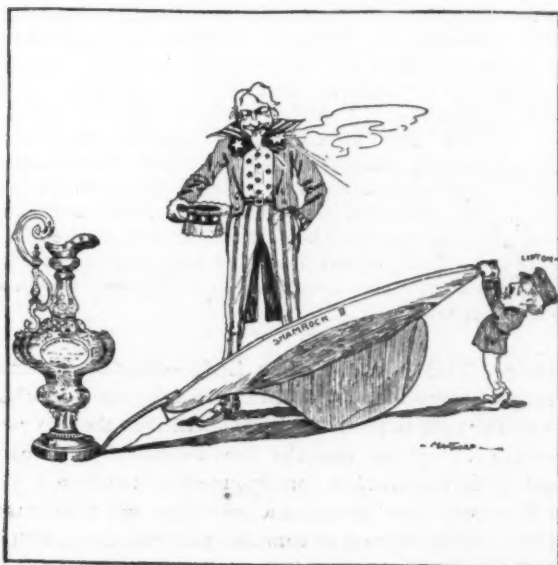
"This, too, while the veterans are old, and at the critical periods of their lives, while the Spanish war survivors and their widows are all young, with the greater part of their lives yet before them.

"The next thought is that with all these hundreds of thousands of unadjudicated cases on file, with the claimants all past the meridian of life, and constantly growing older and needier, with what iron rigidity has been kept the tab on the graveyard, and no one admitted to the roll until some one died and made a place for him. Even including this extraordinary increase of 4,206 during the past year, Mr. Evans has allowed a net increase to the rolls during his four years of but 4,021. As the Spanish war was fought in the mean time, and has so far resulted in 5,604 additions, there are really fewer Union veterans and their widows on the rolls than there were when he took charge.

"This, too, at a time when the rapidly increasing infirmities of the Union veterans demanded a large expansion of the roll.

"This fact is again brought out strongly in the great discrimination of the amount paid pensioners under the old law for disabilities of service origin. In the very nature of things these invalids must grow needier every year, with an increase in their ratings required by their increasing disabilities. Yet the payments to this class diminished \$1,720,253 last year.

"The fees paid pension attorneys last year aggregated \$591,-



UNCLE SAM: "You can't stir it, Tommy."

—The Boston Herald.



"HE WON'T BE HAPPY TILL HE GETS IT."

—The Chicago Record-Herald.

SIR THOMAS AND THE CUP.

245, and was certainly the hardest-earned money paid any attorneys in the country.

"There were over 100,000 claimants rejected on medical grounds, which sufficiently explains the ghastly farce of pronouncing every week 2,000 men past sixty, and who have undergone the most terrible campaigns, as 'not incapacitated for the performance of manual labor.' Was there ever anything more absurd!

"Any one who reflects that men grow old and become more helpless and needy as age advances, must understand and expect that up to a certain period there must and should be a rapid increase in pension expenditures, which will again suffer a rapid decline as the pensioners begin dying in great numbers. The latter period has not yet arrived, and the country should be deeply grateful that it has not."

THE FRANKO-TURKISH TIFF.

THE friction between France and Turkey last week over a Constantinople quay concession to a French company was not regarded by the daily press at any stage of the affair as anything very serious. As the *New York Evening Post* says: "It must be admitted that it is almost impossible to get anything done, and especially anything paid, in Turkey without some breach of diplomatic amenities. While we may properly rejoice that our little bill was collected without the withdrawing of a minister, we should hardly criticize the French for taking the more vigorous course." It appears from the despatches that the Sultan, after permitting a French company to build docks, ferries, etc., in the harbor of Constantinople, decided to buy the property, which he did—all except paying for it. The French minister, M. Constans, has long been urging the Sultan either to pay the bill or restore the property, and last week he went so far as to threaten to break off diplomatic relations unless a satisfactory settlement was made. On Saturday it was announced that an imperial irade had been issued permitting the company to resume its dock and ferry privileges. Some of the European papers that are not particularly friendly to France are reported by cable as expressing the belief that the dock concession was an unprofitable investment, that M. Constans wanted the Sultan to pay for it instead of returning it to the company, and that the stockholders are greatly disappointed at the French "victory" over the Sultan.

The *New York Times* explains the claim of the French company in more detail as follows:

"The differences between France and the Porte are the result of three questions. Two of these questions relate to claims upon Turkey by Frenchmen for advances made in the construction of railroads. One of the claims, with the interest, now amounts to about \$9,000,000.

"The third and most important question is that in regard to the Constantinople Dock and Quay Company, which was incorporated about ten years ago for the purpose of constructing and operating quays on both shores of the Golden Horn. Everything about the company, except its name, is French. Frenchmen formed it, Frenchmen supplied the capital, and its employees are almost entirely French.

"The edict which granted the right to construct quays to the company also conferred other valuable privileges upon it, such as establishing docks and a system of steam ferries and street railroads. With these magnificent prospects the company set to work. When it was almost ready to enjoy the results of its investment it received notice that it would not be allowed to do so—that the Sultan intended to buy back the concession.

"The company was powerless to demand the privileges it supposed belonged to it. All it could do was to insist that it be properly reimbursed. It had expended about \$7,000,000 in constructing quays, and asked \$10,000,000 from Turkey as reimbursement. Two years ago the Sultan nominated a commission to negotiate the terms of purchase, and that is all the satisfaction the company has up to now obtained.

"The Sultan, in explanation of his attitude, is said to have de-

clared that the possession by foreigners of facilities for landing and embarking passengers at Constantinople would be very dangerous to the Porte.

"It was announced in a despatch from Constantinople last Sunday that the Sultan had agreed to raise a loan of 40,000,000f. [\$8,000,000] with which to purchase the quays. This was apparently the arrangement he made with Ambassador Constans."

It appears that the Sultan found that he could not raise this loan as readily as he expected, and the French company is to resume the operation of the quays.

PROGRESS OF THE MERIT SYSTEM.

THE most interesting feature of the civil-service commission's annual report, to judge from the newspaper comment, is the fact that three-fourths of the money now paid out of the United States Treasury in salaries goes to employees who are under the merit system. To quote from the report:

"The aggregate salaries of positions in the classified service, numbering about 90,000 and to be reached only through competitive examinations, approximate \$75,000,000 per annum, while the salaries of all unclassified positions in the executive branch of the Government, probably numbering slightly more than 100,000, are estimated not to exceed \$30,000,000, of which 60 per cent. is for the compensation of the 4,429 Presidential postmasters and the 72,165 postmasters of fourth-class offices."

Many Administration papers consider this an answer to the charge made in some quarters that the President does not favor the merit system. Says the *Boston Journal* (Rep.):

"In spite of the sneers of the spoilsgrabbers and the jeremiads of some despondent reformers, the merit system has forged right ahead in America. President McKinley has been accused of 'betraying' the reform. Before him, President Cleveland was accused of betraying it; before him, President Harrison. But the exact truth is that the reform has grown so strong in the hearts of the people and the practise of the Government that no President could betray it if he cared or dared to try. Every President for a long time has disappointed the earnest reformers, but every President has done a great deal more to promote the reform than he has to harm it."

The *New York Mail and Express* (Rep.), which is often spoken of as Senator Platt's organ, thinks that the "country is no longer in need of the civil-service reform for which there was once so great a cry," and it goes on to say:

"The ideal public service for this country is a more or less elastic system, which shall escape the evils of the hard-and-fast, offensive bureaucracies of Russia and Germany and other countries, on the one hand, and a spoils basis in appointments, with a shifting and incompetent service, on the other hand. In our federal republic the civil service should be representative of the whole country, appointments being apportioned among the States. A wholly classified, wholly competitive service means a more or less centralized and bureaucratized force, which is contrary to the genius of our institutions. At the same time the classified service may well be extended in certain directions, and the sense of security of the deserving employee increased. The civil-service commission should have added power to punish violations of the law."

Eleven Thousand Boers Left.—Most of the American newspapers agree with Lord Kitchener that the Boer chance of winning the fight in South Africa is small, but they do not seem to indorse his opinion that the Boer resistance is unpatriotic. According to the London correspondent of the *New York Sun*, Lord Kitchener says "he sees the inevitable end of the insensate resistance, which some may consider patriotic, but which, in his opinion, has long since forfeited such a designation and has resulted in an unjustifiable prolongation of the war sufferings of the women and children." This stubborn resistance is now being kept up by less than 11,000 men. As the London corre-

spondent of the New York *Tribune* says: "It is possible to estimate with a fair degree of accuracy the strength of the Boer forces now remaining in the field. On July 8 Lord Kitchener estimated the number of fighting Boers at 13,500. Their losses since that date have brought the total down to something under 11,000, and, of course, wastage in ammunition as well as in men is going on rapidly." The same correspondent also says that it is estimated that the British Government is now feeding in military prisons or camps of concentration about one-third of the entirety of the population of the two republics."

The Philadelphia *Ledger* makes this comment:

"With more than 200,000 British soldiers at the seat of war, it is now proposed to use the Kafirs and Basutos to crush the little Boer army of 11,000. Despite these extraordinary preparations, the British respect for, if not fear of, the prowess of the 11,000 Boer fighters is such as to inspire General Kitchener to say in an official despatch on Tuesday that great patience is still required. While it would be hoping against hope to expect the Boers to win or regain independence at this late day of the contest, Lord Kitchener's reference to the 'obstinate resistance' of the Boers, in which he can discover no 'patriotism,' reminds us that the American patriots of 1776 were similarly regarded in the mother country as obstinate rebels mistaking themselves for patriots. The Boers have a fighting force of about 11,000, according to latest advices. This is about the size of the American army encamped at Valley Forge in the darkest period of the Revolutionary War, and half of that meager force was ineffective. The American cause seemed almost hopeless at that time. It is darkest, it is said, just before dawn. It was so with the American Revolutionists; but the problem is probably too stupendous for the brave Boers."

THE BOERS AS SEEN BY WEBSTER DAVIS.

MR. WEBSTER DAVIS says that he issues his new book on South Africa in the hope that it may "aid in some manner in saving two little republics from destruction," and altho the reports from the seat of war make it seem likely that his wish will meet with disappointment, that very fact lends a good deal of interest and value to Mr. Davis's description of the culture and manners of a people whose government may soon perish from the earth. Mr. Davis, who was formerly mayor of Kansas City, resigned his position as Assistant Secretary of the Interior in Washington, about a year and a half ago, to go to South Africa to investigate the Boer cause for himself, and his book will give the future historian a view of the Boer people decidedly different from the idea of them commonly expressed in the British periodicals. He describes the public buildings of the Boer capital as "magnificent," and compares the new court building, which was just nearing completion when Mr. Davis was there, with the new Congressional Library building in Washington. The churches and schools, he says, were "first-class in every particular." The schools "were public and private, and the churches were of all denominations." The hospitals and asylums were excellent, and "in fact, the whole appearance of the city was equal to that of any city in the United States." The modern improvements and appliances, the electric lights, gas, water-works, street-cars, workshops, parks and market-places "made one feel as if he were in one of the prosperous cities of America."

More important, perhaps, are the characteristics of the people. Mr. Davis says:

"I found the Boers possessing the very characteristics which we most admire in our own people, namely, the good nature, the generous spirit, the kindheartedness, the affection for their families, and the frank and manly independence. . . .

"During my travels throughout the two republics, meeting the people in the public places, in their offices, in the hotels, in their homes, in villages and cities, and on the farms, and mingling with the soldiers on the march, in the camp and on the battlefield, I met but few persons who could not speak the English language. Almost all of those who did speak it spoke it quite as

well as the citizens of our own country. I found them clean and neat in their appearance—their homes in as perfect order, as clean and as comfortable and as convenient as the homes of Americans. Sitting at their tables, attending their little dinners in our honor, even private dinners as well as public dinners given by officials of the government, we found the men and women in evening-dress, and when all the guests besides myself were Boers, yet I would not hear a single word but English spoken during the whole evening. I found many of them cultured and refined. Some of them were authors, some had written books, some had written poems, some had produced excellent paintings, many were artists, many were fine musicians, and it was indeed a very common thing to find in camp and on the battle-field many a stalwart Boer with long hair and long beard, apparently rough and uncouth, who surprised me by telling me that he was a graduate from one of the great English universities. Noticing their beards I asked them why so many of them wore whiskers, and one of them answered: 'We do not have time to get our hair cut or to be shaved, for we are busy all the time fighting for our lives and our homes against the savage native or the still more savage Britons, fighting to save our country and to save our independence.' And thus frequently among these brave and chivalrous men of the mountain and veldt would I be surprised so agreeably. And yet these are the kind of men whom the British press and the American sympathizing press would have us believe are untutored savages.

"The two leading newspapers of the Transvaal, the *Volksstem*, at Pretoria, and *The Standard and Digger's News*, at Johannesburg, are published in the greater part in English, and they are bright and newsy papers, and to my mind much better papers than the papers of England. . . . The fact of the matter is that I could get, even during those times, when the British cables were keeping news out of that country that was of much importance, more news in those papers about my own country than I found in the English dailies. I must commend the Boer papers of the Transvaal for their energy and enterprise, and I do believe that the editorials that appeared in those papers will rank far above those of the London dailies and will compare very favorably with the editorials in the columns of the best American newspapers."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

"HAVE you looped the loop?" will be one of the leading questions in the Schley inquiry.—*The Chicago Post*.

WITH his appetite for war, it sometimes seems a pity that the Kaiser was not born a Venezuelan.—*The Washington Star*.

THE changed tone of Colombian despatches indicate that the other side must have captured a telegraph-office.—*The Detroit News*.

THERE must be a species of mosquito in South America that communicates the revolutionary bacillus.—*The New York Mail and Express*.

THESE must be happy days for that obstreperous brother-in-law of Kipling's, if he reads the literary criticisms.—*The Chicago Record-Herald*.

IF Rudyard Kipling really wants to do something for his country let him move up to the firing-line and read his poems to the Boers.—*The Chicago News*.

THE Alabama man who has been so thoughtless as to misplace his grandfather will not cut much of a figure at the ballot-box.—*The Washington Post*.

IT is reported that the leader of the Colombian revolution has been killed. Why not place the other man under arrest and call the thing off?—*The Chicago News*.

TWENTY-FIVE births were reported to the City Health Office on Tuesday. Thursday the milkmen met and raised prices 50 per cent.—*The Nashville American*.

CAPTAIN RICHMOND PEARSON HOBSON has gone into the cotton business. May he have better luck in this line than he had with calico a few years ago!—*The Chicago Post*.

THE proposition to consign Statesman Bryan to the tomb with Jefferson, Jackson, and Tilden will be vigorously resisted, it is more than likely, by all four.—*The Chicago Tribune*.

IF the Standard Oil Company succeeds in destroying mosquitoes, there will be a widespread feeling that trusts are not as black as they have been painted.—*The Washington Star*.

PRESIDENT SCHWAR and President Shaffer both announce that the steel strike is to be a fight to the finish. While not upholding the fight, the public will be glad to see the finish.—*The St. Louis Globe-Democrat*.

IT has been suggested that Sir Thomas Lipton ought to be give the freedom of the city of New York. The only way to accomplish this thoroughly would be to put him on the police force.—*The Washington Star*.

J. PIERPONT MORGAN'S proposition seems to be to allow employees of the steel trust to own stock provided they buy it. Possibly he would let the men own automobiles on the same terms.—*The Chicago News*.

LETTERS AND ART.

IS KIPLING'S POWER DECLINING?

MR. KIPLING'S latest poem, "The Lesson," has stimulated anew the question as to the literary quality of his recent work, especially his verse. We quoted last week several stanzas from "The Lesson," which, it will be seen, strikes much the same note as that heard in "The Absent-Minded Beggar." A remark made by the *Philadelphia Press* concerning the "sickly sentiment" of the latter poem, and another by the *Chicago Record-Herald* to the effect that the former poem is "not above the standard of the costermonger," brings forth from the *Hartford Courant* a defense of both poems, of the author and of the costermonger as well. Says *The Courant*:

"There is a great deal in the lines we have quoted [from 'The Absent-Minded Beggar'] besides masterly simplicity. There is patriotism—generous, humane, wide-seeing patriotism. Underneath their musical cadence and their picturesque delineation there throbs the living heart of a man who loves two things—his country and his kind; and both are worthy to be loved. A lot of us think that there are other things worthier of love—some of us even hitting upon oneself as the only object worthy of supreme and lasting devotion; but those of us who do that are not making poetry, not even of the costermonger standard, and certainly not of the Kipling standard. Then there is, in the lines quoted, that rare, definite, exquisite consciousness, and expression of the inseparable bond between a great, widespreading, historic empire and the little, obscure, faithful individuals who stand under this empire; who hold it up; who in their humdrum lives are the vital, breathing part of it; and who, without much wider thought than that it is the fair, necessary, right thing to do, go out and undergo cold and heat, hunger and thirst, wounds and death, for this empire."

"The Absent-Minded Beggar," *The Courant* thinks, will not die as long as the Anglo-Saxon race continues to be a fighting race, whereas "The Lesson" is for a special exigency of state and will pass with that exigency; but neither parodies nor ridicule can impair the "wise, loving humanity" of the one nor "the serious, lofty purpose" of the other.

In *Harper's Weekly* (August 17) Mr. James K. Stephens expresses himself briefly and adversely concerning Mr. Kipling's latest novel, "Kim." He writes:

"Mr. Kipling's decline may be said to have begun with 'Captains Courageous,' which was crude and revolting in its strength, lacking in grace and inspiration. For the serial rights of that story he received \$12,000; for the serial rights of 'Kim' he was paid \$25,000. It will be seen, therefore, that the highest price is not always paid for the expression of a man's highest power, but is a matter of literary reputation. For it must be confessed that, sanguine as were the expectations of his most loyal admirers, 'Kim' as a novel is distinctly a disappointment. It is the work of a finished journalist, and a fine piece of work at that, but as a criticism of life and as an artistic work instinct with living issues, it fails in the final test to convince, to persuade, to appeal to the imagination."

The *London Saturday Review*, which is one of the most "imperialistic" of English papers, has, nevertheless, no words of praise for "The Lesson." An editorial in its pages (August 3) on "Mr. Kipling's Descent," begins as follows:

"The first impulse of many who read Mr. Kipling's verses called 'The Lesson' in *The Times* of July 29 was, very probably, to thrust aside the sheet containing them with impatience and disgust, to dismiss the matter from their minds forthwith. Verse so bad and treatment of a subject of high moment so coarse, in combination, are enough to make the gorge rise even of those who possess by no means a very delicate literary stomach. If to any one this way of putting it seems itself to verge on what is coarse, let him refresh his memory with the verses and own that our metaphor is, by comparison, of the very essence of refinement. But this impulse, tho naturally enough, should be re-

pressed by those who have the opportunity of drawing attention to the performance and of uttering a word of warning as to the danger with which it is fraught."

This "danger" is that inasmuch as Kipling has done good work and has so large an audience, his voice at this time will be taken as that of the English people:

"Stamped with the great hall-mark of *The Times*, Mr. Kipling's verses go forth as the voice of the nation. That nation is represented as 'a business people'—we have only a vague notion as to what 'a business people' means—owning that it has had a great shaking up, that its army at the beginning of the war was utterly inefficient. Now that without doubt is the feeling of England, and the subject handled by a poet, by a poet of the second rank with some sense of dignity, of responsibility, might well have produced verse that would elevate, certainly not degrade. How does Mr. Kipling treat the subject? Let us give three variants of his catchy refrain. 'We have had a jolly good lesson, and it serves us jolly well right!': 'We have had no end of a lesson; it will do us no end of good': 'We have had an imperial lesson; it will make us an empire yet!': 'We are not cotton-spinners all,' exclaimed Tennyson fifty years since when the Manchester School seemed to have too much influence in high politics. We do not want Manchester again, but would put up with that better than with the politics of the pot-house."

DRAMATIC CRITICISM AND "THE UNCRITICAL PUBLIC."

IN a series of papers entitled "Reminiscences of a Dramatic Critic," Mr. Henry Austin Clapp, the well-known dramatic lecturer and late critic of the *Boston Advertiser*, gives some of his impressions of plays, playwrights, and playgoers in America during the past twenty years. The most striking portions of his first article (*The Atlantic Monthly*, August) deal with the American dramatic critic and with the characteristics of the American theatergoer. Of the former he writes:

"The value of liberty to a public critic is incalculably great; the lack of it to an honest and earnest man in that vocation is like the lack of wholesome air to human lungs. It was years before I fully appreciated my privilege in this kind, or realized how much happier was my lot than that of some of my professional brethren. The ideally perfect dramatic critic must always be, even in Paris, London, and New York, a *rara avis*. The man whose equipment includes a good working familiarity with the classic and modern languages; an intimate acquaintance with all English literature, and with all that is most important in other literatures; a long experience with the theater; a high and varied skill in writing; honesty of purpose and complete emancipation from mean personal prejudice; and, finally, the faculty inborn, and, tho highly susceptible of cultivation, never to be acquired, of detecting false touches in acting as the perfect ear detects false tones in music,—even the late brilliant, accomplished, and unimpeachable Sarcey did not fill the area of that definition. Yet if such an Admirable Crichton existed, he would not be effective on the staff of a newspaper which in any way or at any point, for commercial or any reasons, cabined, cribbed, or confined him; hinting here, coaxing there, anon undertaking to give instructions as to his meting out of praise or blame. I have known many critics, and of the entire number have known but one whom I believed to be capable of corruption in his high office. They were, and are, as square a set of men as ever lived. But some of them were hampered and handicapped by their employers, and came short of rendering the best service to the public because of counting-room pressure in favor of liberally advertising theaters, or against theaters whose patronage was less valuable. Sometimes it has happened, also,—tho seldom anywhere, I suppose, and oftener in New York than Boston,—that among the actors there were friends or foes of editors-in-chief or of owners, with the shameful consequence that the critic was bidden to be 'a respecter of persons,' and at the same time instructed to be crafty not to betray the secret of his partiality."

Such newspapers, however, are always found out, says Mr. Clapp, and soon lose much of their influence with their readers.

But the public cares very little, at best, for dramatic criticism, he adds, or is qualified by education or habits to weigh it:

"A large majority of all the persons who read the daily journals have not the faintest notion of comparing or distinguishing the values of various censures. The great body of patrons of the theater are, indeed, alike indifferent and, directly, impervious to criticism of any sort; they swarm into the playhouses with an indiscriminating eagerness of desire, which seems as masterful as the blind instinct that compels the migration of schools of fish; they are laws unto themselves, and find out and applaud what they like by the application of those laws, some of which have roots which run far down into our common psychic protoplasm. The judicious remainder—absolutely large in numbers, tho comparatively few—constitute the body to which the critic appeals, and through which, by processes of slow filtration, he may hope to make some indirect impression for good upon the vast mass of humanity that fills the theaters night after night, week after week. If this statement seems cynical, the reader of *The Atlantic* is requested to consider the situation in a kindred matter, and to note that three-quarters of the general perusal of contemporary books is utterly uninfluenced by any kind of literary criticism. The huge public which revels in the novels, for example, of 'Albert Ross' and Mrs. Mary J. Holmes knows no more about book notices than it knows about the Eddas. As far as that public is concerned, the critical journals, magazines, and reviews might as well be printed in Russian as in English, as well be published in St. Petersburg and Moscow as in New York and Boston."

PROFESSOR TRIGGS AND LITERARY VALUES.

RECENT classroom utterances by Oscar L. Triggs, instructor in English in Chicago University, have come in for what one newspaper calls "a well-merited castigation" at the hands of the press of the country. His reported declaration that the hymns of evangelical churches are mere doggerel, inferior in literary excellence to the average dime novel, caused a storm of editorial protest. When, a few days later, he characterized Longfellow's verse as trivial and unworthy of consideration, describing it in effect as milk for babes, not meat for strong men, editorial disapproval, secular and religious, grew stronger.

In a letter of explanation published in the *Chicago Tribune*, Professor Triggs said:

"The public should understand that a teacher in the privacy of his classroom may state a thing playfully, paradoxically, with that exaggeration that belongs to a good pedagogy, and so leave the class to discriminate the true and the false. A teacher is not required at all times to tell the truth. A class is under obligation at all times to investigate and discover for themselves the truth."

In *The Tribune* the professor qualified somewhat his statement regarding hymns and his estimate of Longfellow. "He made a favorable exception of Cardinal Newman's hymn, 'Lead, Kindly Light,' and, speaking of Longfellow, he said:

"I have looked upon literature, always, as the expression of its age, manners, and life. So regarding it, I look around to find this expression in the literature of the United States. But in our conventional literature it is not there. Searching for the modern and the democratic, as opposed to the traditional and the feudalistic, there is too little in evidence.

"We have been writing of things too far removed from the sunlight, the sweep of the prairie winds, the whirl and jar of this industrial age. We have had the literature of the library—of the dilettante—when we have needed a literature that should mark our roughness, bareness, and uncouthness.

"This has come of allowing a literary New England to stand for the literature of America.

"The criticism in force to-day is largely derivative from New England. Not content with writing the greater volume of our verse, the Eastern men have imposed their critical judgment upon the people at large. Recently there have been signs of a shifting of emphasis. Longfellow is losing importance, and writ-

ters like Riley are gaining. In Longfellow's sense of poetry Riley has not written poetry so much as a new and more democratic sense he has depicted life. In some way life has got into a book, with its own rhythms and accents; and the book does not read like a book, but is known like a person. The humanization of poetry may count for more in the twentieth century than does Longfellow's poetization of humanity."

Professor Triggs's explanations and qualifying statements have not served to turn the current of adverse criticism. Says the *New York Times's Saturday Review*:

"Anything is good that brings Longfellow up again, even silly remarks from the professor of English literature in the Chicago University. There is something about his verse so clean, so wholesome, and so thoroughly artistic withal, that it would not be very risky to say that he is the most poetical as well as far and away the most popular poet we have thus far produced. . . .

"To be sure, his intellectual limitations prevent his poetry from being entirely satisfactory to serious minds. The perfection of his technic is best appreciated when it is not complicated with the question of his ideas, as, for example, in translation, of which he is one of the first masters in the English language, and quite the first in this country. But the man is to be pitied who can read, say, 'My Lost Youth' or 'The Jewish Cemetery at Newport,' or the introductory sonnet to the translation of Dante, and find nothing in it.

"The fact is that we are coming to require, not 'meat,' meaning substance, but high flavor, in our poetry. Ginger and tabasco will alone titillate the jaded palate of a Triggs, it appears. That is Longfellow's misfortune, but it is not he that is in fault. The same thing has happened in literature which Wagner brought to pass in music, that the zealots of the newer poetry can not taste the simpler flavors of the older. A good musician said, not long ago: 'Mendelssohn is down, but he will come up again.' And the charm of Mendelssohn is curiously like the charm of Longfellow, the setting forth of common themes with flawless artistic workmanship and a never-failing mastery of form, and to a result of quiet beauty."

The *New York Sun* asks:

"It was Taine, wasn't it, who decided that Tennyson couldn't be a great poet because Tennyson was respectable? Professor Triggs is positive that on account of the 'environment of Puritanism Longfellow could not be a great poet.' So Longfellow is pitched out of the Poet's Corner and sent after that wretched Puritan, Milton. . . . When all the American or un-American poets have been executed, will not Professor Triggs make short work of Dante? He was 'a cultured cuss,' a natural enemy, therefore, of Professor Triggs."

The *Hartford (Conn.) Times* says:

"The statement that the hymns of the Protestant churches are doggerel could never have been made by a man of literary culture, even if he disapproved of the contents or ideas embodied, because one of the first things a literary man learns is to appreciate form independent of meaning. He may disapprove of the dogma, but he appreciates the embodiment, and he sympathizes with the old earnest belief. The strongest Unitarian can appreciate the great Trinity hymn, and the man who does not see that 'Rock of Ages' is a great piece of literature lacks the rudiments of literary sensibility."

The Interior (Presb.) thinks that

"he must have curious canons of literary excellence who does not find in the limpid English and faultless rhythm and perfect rimes of many of Watt's hymns the 'hallmark' of pure gold. It can hardly be gainsaid that William Ewart Gladstone, master of the languages and literature of the modern world, was a fair judge of literary excellence; and he found in Toplady's 'Rock of Ages, cleft for me,' a something worthy of translation into classic Latin. And when one who has seen as much of life as did the aged queen of Great Britain, recently deceased, falls on sleep repeating, 'My fait' looks up to thee,' there must be something in English hymns which touches the universal heart and satisfies the common soul of the race, irrespective of learning, place, or years; and nothing lacking in literary excellence ever did that."

NATIONAL TRAITS AS REFLECTED BY MUSIC.

NATIONALISM is easily recognized in music, but to what is it due, and how is it to be described? In studying the evolution of the art of music, is it possible to determine exactly what elements the various nations have severally contributed and what influence each has had on the complete modern product?

These questions are put and answered by Prof. Hugh A. Clarke, of the University of Pennsylvania, in a volume of essays entitled "Highways and Byways of Music." The most interesting and suggestive of the essays are "The Teutonic Element in Music" and "Modern Tendencies in Music." In the first-named essay it is pointed out that nationalism in music is a comparatively recent development. During the period of the old classical school, says Professor Clarke, the art-music exhibited no national traits. A madrigal, or a motet, or a fugue by an Italian composer differed in no respect from a like composition by a German or Englishman or Fleming. Nationalism has made its way with remarkable suddenness, yet it has emphasized its presence so strongly that now German, Italian, French, and English music differ as widely as, and even more widely than, the manners and moral qualities of these peoples. Whence these differences, and how are they expressed? Professor Clarke says: "In searching for the origin of this nationalism we must turn to the 'folk-music' of the various peoples—the popular songs and dance tunes, natural growths, innocent of musical learning.

Professor Clarke proceeds to set forth the most striking characteristics of the popular music of the various peoples, as follows:

"To begin with the Italian, the popular music of Italy is characterized by smooth, graceful melody, by intense passion, or by its opposite extreme, languor. It indicates a temperament in which quick, strong passion is combined with a keen sense of and admiration for sensuous beauty, but when not moved by passion it is too languid for sustained effort. This temperament presents just the right conditions to make Italy the cradle of dramatic music, with its rapid variations of mood, its passion and action, all kept within the limits of the beautiful by the ever-flowing stream of exquisite melody.

"On the other hand, the Frenchman, gifted with a keen appreciation of style, always terse and delicate in his work, is as epigrammatic in his music as in his literature; and it is impossible that a style chiefly characterized by neatness and tenderness should ever develop into a large art-form. The grace and self-poised perfectness that give such a charm to a *chanson* or a *genre* composition of Couperin can not be stretched to cover a symphony. Even in opera the indigenous French form is a series of delicately cut and polished jewels, strung together like beads on a necklace.

"It is easier to characterize German folk-music by negatives than by positives. It is entirely wanting in the strenuous passion and soft melodiousness of the Italian on the one hand, and the neat precision and *savoir-faire* of the French on the other. It is quiet and self-contained, passion is tempered by reason, imagination is controlled by reflection. It is the reflex of the temperament of a sedate, thoughtful race, given to high thinking and plain living; a people to whom art is as serious a matter as right living. German music is entirely lacking in the catchy quality of the brilliant French or sensuous Italian music, but these superficial qualities are more than compensated for by a purity and earnestness that make it haunt the memory long after others have lost their charm."

English music is a blend, a mixture of French and German characteristics. There is a class of English songs that has no counterpart anywhere, however—songs of a broad, good-humored joviality, rather coarse at times, but full of a quaint humor. No Celtic people has developed an art-music, altho no people is more passionately fond of music or possesses a more beautiful folk-music. The reason is found in "the impulsive, mercurial temperament of the Celt, easily moved, but never long constant to one emotion, and utterly wanting in the patience necessary for long-continued effort. This is just the temperament for the pro-

duction of melodies covering the widest range of emotion, unmatched for beauty, or pathos, or gaiety, or ardor—melodies on which the constraint of 'form' would act like frost on summer flowers." The Scotch genius is essentially lyrical. The Scotch temperament is diametrically opposite to that of the Celt. The Scotch are intense, but reticent and self-restrained. When feeling must overflow, the outlet is the short lyric; then the habitual reticence reasserts itself, and there is no desire to continue the expression of the emotion.

In view of these differences, Professor Clarke holds, the part played by the Teuton may be defined. It is the Germans who have raised music from the low plane of sensuous pleasure and given it an ethical signification. In instrumental and operatic music Germany is supreme, tho Italy invented the sonata, the greatest of musical forms, which has given us the symphony.

Professor Clarke believes that the German art-form is essential to all great compositions, tho a better form may be discovered in the future. An advocate of true nationalism in music, he yet objects to the dragging in of "plantation melodies," or other songs for the sake of "local color." Dvorak's "American" symphony he declares to be the "apotheosis of a minstrel show."

THE POET-LAUREATE.

MR. ALFRED AUSTIN has been duly reappointed to the post of poet-laureate, and he has also just published a collection of various poems of a loyal character written between 1861 and 1901, giving to the collection the title of "Victoria the Wise." *Punch* (London) satirizes the reappointment in a full-page cartoon, and *The Athenæum* (London) thus comments on the new book:

"Fate, or Lord Salisbury, played Mr. Austin a scurvy trick in making him poet-laureate. His inevitable failure in an inappropriate task has not unnaturally led to an unreasonable disregard of his real achievements in other directions. For there is a real



RE-ENGAGED.

ALFRED THE PARNASSIAN CIRCUS-RIDER (to Pegasus): "I've got the job again! Come up, Peggy! Hou-p-lâ!" (sings.)

"Tis I would be the laureate bold,
With a butt of sherry
To keep me merry

And nothing to do but to pocket the gold!"—*Ben Gaultier's Ballads*.
[Mr. Alfred Austin has been duly re-appointed to the post of Poet Laureate.]

—*Punch*, London.

runnel of poetry in Mr. Austin which, tho wholly inadequate to fill the conduits of a patriotic celebration, yet purls pleasantly in green places. Properly, he is the poet of tame nature, of flowery borders and garden lawns. The imperial rhythms of heightened national feeling are not his; they only move him officially to the sonorous platitudes of the journalist. The sentiments of the present volume are irreproachable; they have inspired nothing, and seem likely to make no pulse beat the faster. They have the literary value of a receipt for a barrel of sack. Incidentally, however, some verses on Florence betray Mr. Austin's real quality. They are somewhat artificially connected with a loyal theme, but they are charming. Mr. Austin knows and loves Florence:

And iris gonfalons scale her walls,
And rustic roses storm square and street;
In sound of her gates the cuckoo calls,
And the slow-swaying ox-wain creaks and crawls
"Twixt blossoming bean and beardless wheat.
In gabled pathway and shaded porch
Men gather and wait to acclaim "The Queen";
While over the wall, where the sun-rays scorch
And the lizard is lost, the silvery torch
Of the fig is tipped with a flame of green.

TOLSTOY ON MODERN LITERATURE.

AN intimate glimpse of Tolstoy's personality is given in a recent book on "Tolstoy and His Problems" by Aylmer Maude, who was at one time a wealthy manufacturer in St. Petersburg, and who abandoned commercial life in order to devote himself to the spreading of Tolstoy's teachings. Mr. Maude is now living in England, is translator of several of Tolstoy's works, and was instrumental in bringing the Doukhobors from Russia to Canada. One of the chapters of his book, entitled "Talks with Tolstoy," contains much interesting matter regarding the Russian reformer's views of literature and kindred topics. Tolstoy's informal comments on past and present literature, as reported by Mr. Maude, are thoroughly characteristic. Among contemporary English novelists, Tolstoy does not know of any whom he esteems more than Mrs. Humphry Ward. Sienkiewicz is "always readable, but what he writes is tinged with his Catholicism." Zola's worst fault is that he "piles up mountains of undigested facts." On the other hand, he is to be commended for his faithful delineations of the life of the common people. While we are all talking about the "people," remarked Tolstoy, about their rights, and about the ways of "raising" them, etc., here is Zola who writes of the ordinary man as he actually lives and works. Mr. Maude once asked Tolstoy how he accounted for the supreme rank among authors accorded to Shakespeare in Russia and elsewhere. He replied that he explained it to himself by the fact that the "cultured crowd" who care for his writings have no clear idea of the purpose and aim of life. They can most readily and heartily admire an author who is like themselves in this respect, that is, one with no central standpoint from which to measure his relation to all else. Shakespeare owes his great reputation, in Tolstoy's opinion, to the fact that he is an artist of great and varied abilities; but he owes it yet more to the fact that he shares with his admirers this great weakness—that he has not found the answer to the question, What are we alive for?

Count Tolstoy finds much to admire in the writings of many latter-day radicals. Of Ruskin he has a very high opinion. "I don't know why you English make such a fuss about Gladstone," he once said; "you have a much greater man in Ruskin." With William Morris's definition of art as "the expression of man's joy in his work" he was also thoroughly in harmony. Of J. S. Mill's works Tolstoy liked best the "Autobiography," tho he found it "amazing that a man should have gone so far in his experience of life, and should have put the vital question so clearly and so well and yet should have stopped short without finding the answer." Tolstoy finds much to commend in the writings of

many English Socialist writers, in especial such men as Edward Carpenter, Henry S. Salt, Robert Blatchford, and John C. Kenworthy. A great literature, he has often observed, arises when there is a great moral awakening. In considering, for example, the emancipation period, when the struggle for the abolition of serfdom was going on in Russia and the anti-slavery movement was alive in the United States, we can see how great a school of writers these crises produced, including such names as Harriet Beecher Stowe, Thoreau, Emerson, Lowell, Whittier, Longfellow, William Lloyd Garrison, Theodore Parker, and others in America; and Dostoyevsky, Turgeneff, Herzen, Gógol, Nekrásoff, Nádsón, and others in Russia.

In poetry Tolstoy is hard to please. To a friend who sent him Matthew Arnold's poems he returned the book in a few days with the remark that they were very good, "but what a pity they were not written in prose!" Why, he asks, need men hamper the clear expression of their thoughts by selecting a style which obliges them to choose, not the words which best express their meaning, but those that best enable them to get the lines to scan? If we can say what we have to say in three words, why use five? Or if a word or two more will avoid the risk of being misunderstood, why not add them? People have written valuable things in verse; but they could, in most cases, have said them better in prose. And how much worthless stuff has been circulated merely for the sake of the skill with which it was expressed!

REAL CHARACTERS IN FICTION.

A SUIT brought—and won—in England the other day by an indignant citizen against a lady novelist who had caricatured him as her hero in a recent novel, furnishes a theme for Mr. William S. Walsh, writing in *The Literary Era* (August). The verdict, Mr. Walsh thinks, "seems of ominous import to that class of novelists who go to real life for their characters," and proceeds to recall a number of instances of living people who have been aggrieved in the same way. One of the cases was that of Prof. Goldwin Smith, who appears as the Oxford professor in Disraeli's "Lothair." Mr. Walsh recalls with admiration Professor Smith's mode of resenting this. He wrote to the author as follows:

"In your 'Lothair' you introduce an Oxford professor who is about to emigrate to America, and you describe him as a social parasite.

"You well know that if you had ventured openly to accuse me of any social baseness, you would have had to answer for your words. But when, sheltering yourself under the literary forms of a work of fiction, you seek to traduce with impunity the social character of a political opponent, your expressions can touch no man's honor—they are the stingless insults of a coward."

Thackeray and Dickens caused frequent offense by their evident portraiture of living people. Of one of Dickens's characters Mr. Walsh writes as follows:

"The grossest injury which Dickens ever inflicted on a fellow being was his too accurate portrait of an innocent man in his Squeers. That Yorkshire schoolmasters, as a rule, were cruel and wicked is true enough. But the particular schoolmaster who was recognized and who recognized himself as the original Squeers seems to have been an exception to the rule.

"It will be remembered that Dickens and his illustrator traveled together to the north of England for the purpose of collecting material for *Nickleby* and especially for the Dotheboys episode. At Greta Bridge they visited a boarding-school known as Bowes Academy. The master, William Shaw, received the strangers with some *hauteur* and did not as much as withdraw his eyes from the operation of pen-making during their interview. Phiz sketched him in the act. Boz described the act. The personal peculiarities of William Shaw were recognized in Squeers. Shaw became a butt of popular ridicule, he lost his pupils, and finally died of a broken heart. Yet there is abundant evidence to prove that he was a really excellent and kind-hearted man, who was made to suffer for the misdeeds of his neighbors."

SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

THUNDER-STORMS.

THE following interesting facts about thunder-storms are from a pamphlet by Alfred F. Sims, published by the General Electric Company. Mr. Sims tells us that systematic observations of thunder-storms were made in this country, under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution, as early as 1846. Recent investigations by the Weather Bureau have established the following laws:

"(1) Thunder-storms advance from the west toward the east and southeast; they generally develop in the southeast quadrant of a low atmospheric pressure area and about four to five hundred miles from its center.

"(2) The outlines of the region favorable for thunder-storm development spread in a fan shape toward the southeast and east.

"(3) A thunder-storm travels at less speed than the accompanying area of low atmospheric pressure.

"The development of thunder-storms depends, not only on the high temperature of the summer afternoons, but also on the lack of equilibrium of the atmosphere as determined by the circulation of cyclonic winds.

"The attendant phenomena of a thunder-storm vary considerably, but are usually as follows: First, cirrus haze appears in the morning. Then dark clouds are seen lying low in the western sky, usually in the afternoon; the air is warm and sultry. Later on the clouds mount to near the zenith, and the air near the ground 'a solemn stillness holds.' The clouds on the front of the thunder-storm are grayish-white or reddish and hang over and in front of the main rain-cloud. Above these, dense dark gray and violet cumulo-stratus clouds are seen, also the towering cumulus clouds which are separated from the cumulo-stratus. Often these are interspersed with one or more thick cumulo-stratus cloud layers, and above all is the widely distributed cirro-stratus.

"The herald of the storm is heard before the cloud reaches the zenith, and the first rain commences after it. The interval between the first thunder and the beginning of the rain varies from a few minutes to half an hour or more. About five minutes before rain begins, there come from the west or northwest a brisk wind which suddenly increases in violence and becomes a squall.

"The time of heaviest rainfall varies; sometimes it occurs at the beginning and sometimes in the latter part of the time the rain-cloud draws over a locality. The lightning strokes and loudest thunder occur some minutes after the rain begins. Gradually the western horizon loses its dark aspect, lightens up a little, and finally opening clouds appear. The storm clouds pass by overhead and the rain ceases shortly before their western edge reaches the zenith. The last thunder is usually heard after the rear edge of the cloud has passed the zenith. The usual direction of translation of thunder-storms in this latitude is easterly, and they revolve around a horizontal axis, whereas tornadoes revolve around a vertical axis."

The meteorological conditions change considerably just before the storm, Mr. Sims tells us. The air pressure and the relative humidity decrease, and the temperature rises; the wind is light. When the storm bursts the air pressure and relative humidity increase rapidly and the temperature falls; the wind becomes

suddenly strong, and sometimes it as suddenly subsides, while at times it increases until near the close of the storm. Toward the end, the air pressure and relative humidity reach their maximum, and the temperature its minimum. The author thus describes the phenomena of the lightning-discharge:

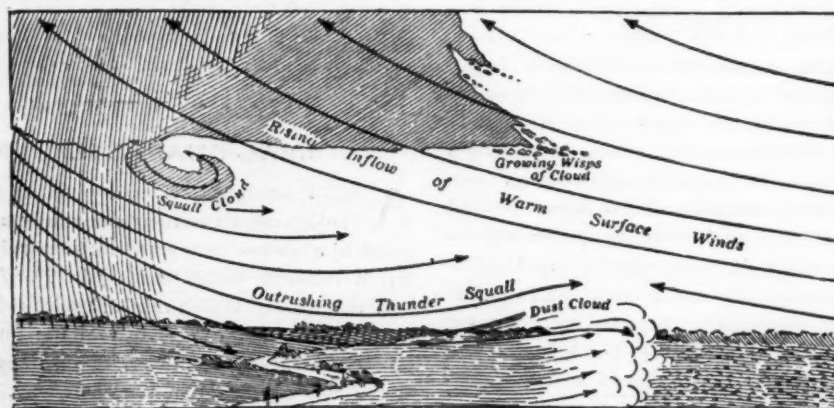
"The air between two clouds charged with electricity, or between a charged cloud and the earth, is subject to an electrical strain. When this strain upon the air column becomes too great a disruptive discharge takes place. This discharge may vary in character from the invisible silent lightning to the violent, impulsive rush discharge which has an enormous amount of energy. The flash may have a duration varying from one three-hundredth of a second to a second. The lowest point in the cloud formation is where the electrical discharge most frequently takes place, for the reason that it offers the shortest course to the ground.

"The distribution of electricity varies with every change in the conditions of the atmosphere. As electricity resides on the surface of a body, when aqueous vapor condenses on dust particles and accretes the electrical potential of the rain-drop rapidly rises, for the reason that the surface of the rain-drop is smaller than the total surfaces of the small globules which combine to form it.

"A heavy shower of rain rapidly carries off the electricity, reducing the potential

of a cloud to that of the earth. There are certain states of the atmosphere which give rise to silent electric discharges between pointed bodies and the air.

"The electrical energy is mainly converted into heat by the resistance of the air, the particles of which are instantaneously heated. The passage of the electrical current is so rapid that only a



DIAGRAMMATIC CROSS-SECTION OF A THUNDER-STORM.

brilliant light streak, or flash, is visible.

"The intensely heated air expands suddenly, and then as suddenly contracts, setting up a succession of air-waves along the line of the flash. The rumble and roar or sharp crackling sound reach the ear according to the distance of the observer and the direction of the discharge. The sound reverberates from the earth's surface and hills and from clouds.

"Vegetable juices of trees present lanes for the electric discharge, and very often the sap between the wood and the bark is so heated by the discharge that steam is generated which bursts the trees, tears away branches, and plows deep furrows in the solid wood.

"Thunder-storm conditions are generally found on the edges of low areas and are not noted in the centres. When thunder-storms occur in the southwest quadrant of a low area they are liable to be sporadic in character; their route of march is short, and they soon die out. In heated terms, thunder-storms may be looked for along the line of change in pressure, and where the temperature in the afternoon will continue high. These storms are more liable to occur the day after the maximum heat has passed.

"Small thunder-storms which last but a short time are often influenced by the topography of the country, that is, by the mountains and river valleys. The larger storms, which extend upward thousands of feet into the atmosphere, cross mountain and valley and are practically uninfluenced by small isolated hills or river valleys.

"Thunder-storm activity often begins almost simultaneously over a rather large region and it may continue intermittently for a day or so, when, without an apparent reason, there is a decided increase in the violence of the storms.

"Violent thunder-storms may occur in the same district on two successive afternoons, but this is the exception rather than the general rule."

PERSISTENCE OF TASTE AS A TEST OF INDIGESTIBILITY.

IT is asserted by Dr. A. R. Camberwell in *The Healthy Home* (August), that the recurrence of the peculiar flavor of an article of food for some time after it has been taken into the stomach is always an indication that it is not being properly digested. We may thus detect, he says, "embalmed" canned goods, meat that has grown old in cold-storage, adulterated extracts, etc. He says:

"A short time since a very nice cake appeared on the supper table of a certain family. It was flavored with lemon extract, and in texture and palatability it met the favor of all who tested it. A little while after eating, however, several began to complain that they 'tasted' the lemon. This simply meant that for some reason or other the cake had disagreed with them, and the prominent lemon flavor in it returned to the mouth and made itself disagreeably manifest.

"We do not know exactly what particular brand of extract of lemon was used in the case in question, but we would wager a piece of cake that it was of a sort similar to the kind which was well advertised by the State Board of Health in its last report. The report stated that out of thirteen popular brands of extract of lemon not one contained any oil of lemon, and most of them were colored with aniline dyes and were deficient in alcohol strength.

"It is not a bit surprising that extract of lemon made from powerful chemicals and containing not a particle of the oil of lemon should offend even the digestive faculties of powerful stomachs and cause those who eat it to 'taste' it. . . .

"The first tin of tomatoes from the store was opened a few nights since. The verdict from several of the family, pronounced from one-half hour to an hour and a half after the meal, was, 'I taste it.' This family had been accustomed to eating tomato, had thrived on it, had had no trouble with it, but with the first can from the grocery the trouble made itself felt with several members of the household and undoubtedly existed, if not felt, in the digestion of the remaining members.

"What was the trouble? It was that those tomatoes were not preserved by heat alone and by the exclusion of the air, which is the right method for properly canned fruit and vegetables of every kind, but were also preserved by the addition of a portion of salicylic acid, or salicylic and sulfurous acid combined, or, worse yet, by formaldehyd, all of which substances prevent decomposition and preserve the outward form of the organic substance which it is intended to preserve, but which will destroy the alimentary qualities of every fruit or vegetable. Food products in which such preservatives are used are not only embalmed against the depredations of the fermentative microbes of the outer air, but equally well embalmed and preserved against the digestive juices of the stomach. It is an utter waste of effort for the digestive organs to attempt to extract alimentation from embalmed fruits and vegetables. . . .

"A recent report of the North Carolina experiment station showed that out of one hundred samples of canned fruit examined, every one was found to contain so-called food preservatives. Sixty per cent. of the canned vegetables were found to contain preservatives. The effects on the system of the long-continued administration of these preservatives, even in small quantities, must simply be an entire wreck of the digestive functions."

The only safe course under present circumstances, the writer believes, is, whenever possible, to reject canned goods of all kinds. If the general public were made aware of the danger lurking under the brightly colored labels, the falling-off in the consumption, he says, would be so great that manufacturers in self-protection would be compelled to print on their labels "No preservatives used" and live up to the statement. But there is another method of food-preservation whose undesirability is even less well known. Says Dr. Camberwell:

"Walking along one of the market streets of a great city, the writer observed some turkeys which had just been taken from the cold-storage warehouse, having been there since the previous December. Their appearance was so interesting that I stopped there a moment to watch them. It was undeniable that the low

temperature of the great storage-warehouse had prevented what is ordinarily known as decomposition. Nevertheless the appearance of these turkeys was radically different from their appearance when they went into the warehouse. No one could look at them without believing what every physician knows to be the fact, that there had been degeneration of the tissues and a loss of the food elements which freshly killed meat contain.

"A person making a hearty meal from turkey kept in the storage-warehouse from December to June would have occasion, in all probability, to cry for hours afterward 'I taste it.' If he did not taste it he would be punished for his indiscretion by a serious bowel trouble, if not by a worse disorder.

"A man trying to live on meat kept for a long time in cold-storage would simply starve to death or die of blood-poisoning.

"The staple supply of the family table can be in the main selected from fruits and vegetables in their natural state, from meats freshly killed, and killed under hygienic surroundings; from cereals and nut products of known purity. And we can only wish for that housewife who fails to recognize and avoid the dangers and evils outlined in this article an aggravated form of the disorder recognized by our friend of the beginning, when she said 'I taste it.'"

DEATH OF A GREAT ARCTIC EXPLORER.

BARON NORDENSKIÖLD, one of the best-known Arctic explorers of recent times, has just died in Stockholm, Sweden, in the seventieth year of his age. We quote the following notice of his life from the *Brooklyn Eagle*, which says:

"Baron Nordenskiöld was a Finn, but his ships always sailed under the Danish and Norwegian flags. He was a man of scientific attainment, a chemist, mineralogist, and geologist, as well as sailor and observer, and began his ventures into the North at the age of twenty-six, when he accompanied an expedition to Spitzbergen—an island group that he visited on several occasions afterward, pushing beyond that point on one of the trips to latitude 82° 41'. His great achievement was in effecting the Northeast passage, over twenty years ago—a performance that had its reward, not in his title or in scholastic honor, but in the extension of his fame throughout the world, and in the satisfaction in achievement which is, after all, the only reward of lasting consequence.

"The Northwest passage, so long discussed, so often attempted, was successfully made by McClure and Parry. In the attempt to force it Sir John Franklin lost his life. The region has been mapped, but it is so constantly blocked by ice that it is impractical for trading-ships, and must hence remain of no commercial consequence. The Northeast passage, however, had never been forced. The land had been plotted on the maps, and explorations to the northern coast of Siberia had been carried on from the land side, but of the sea conditions little was known. Nordenskiöld solved its mysteries. He pushed the *Vega* through



THE LATE BARON NORDENSKIÖLD.

the ice all the way from North Cape to Bering Strait, keeping wisely near to the shores, and thereby escaping the westward set of the pack which crushed the *Jeanette*, and carried the stouter ships of Dr. Nansen and the Duke of Abruzzi to the farthest North. Here again he proved a geographical fact, but he opened no way for commerce from Europe to the far East. It is of use, however, to learn of limitations as well as possibilities, and his successful voyage saved the expense in life and treasure of others that would have been unsuccessful. His daring, his energy, his industry, his additions to scientific knowledge brought honor to the name of Nordenskiöld."

A nephew of the explorer, Dr. Nordenskiöld, has just fitted out an expedition for the Antarctic, largely owing to his uncle's aid and enthusiastic approval. The elder Nordenskiöld dies too soon to share in the knowledge that may thus be gained.

USES OF THE HUMAN EAR.

THE ear—using the word to signify the visible outer part of that organ and not the inner part that serves us so well as an auditory apparatus—is more ornamental than useful. It is a survival. Some curious facts about it are detailed in a contribution to *La Nature* (July 27), by Henri Coupin. Says this writer:

"Many readers will certainly be astonished when I affirm that . . . we may rest assured that there are no two ears in the world that are exactly alike. It is this extreme variability that has induced M. Bertillon to chose the ear as the 'key' of his anthropometric method, used to-day in most civilized countries. With a simple written description of an ear, an expert will find its possessor in a few minutes in a crowd of a hundred persons. . . .

"For those who wish to study the ears of their families—it would be very interesting to compare those of members of the same family—or of their friends. I will give, after Professor Testut, some indications of the terms used and of the points to which attention should be directed. The outer ear, which makes a greater or less angle with the skull, shows in its center a deep hollow, the 'shell,' which is connected directly with the inner ear. The rest is occupied by four protuberances—the helix, the anthelix, the tragus, and the antitragus. The helix is the ridge on the edge of the ear. . . . The anthelix fills the space that separates the helix from the shell. The tragus is a projection of triangular form, situated in the front of the shell, a little below the helix, from which it is separated by a depression generally very marked. The antitragus, as its name indicates, projects opposite the tragus. Below, the ear is prolonged by a soft, flabby formation, the lobe. . . .

"Of the numerous anomalies that the outer ear may present, one of the most interesting is a more or less distinct projection that appears on the free edge of the helix at its upper part. This projection, which was noted first by Darwin, . . . has since been called by his name. . . . It is always the homolog of the more or less sharp point in which the ears of long-eared animals end. . . . An Italian, M. Chiarugi, has recently brought forward an interesting argument in favor of the identity of this projection with the ear-point of long-eared animals. It is well known that with the latter the hair on the ear is all directed toward the point. Now the human ear has on its outer side two systems of hairs, which always meet, when 'Darwin's tubercle' exists, at the level of this tubercle. The hairs on the inner side are also directed toward it and sometimes a sort of tuft results. . . .

"Lombroso and his school find in the ear characteristics indicative of a disposition to crime. For example, figures that he gives regarding the anomaly called handle-ear, show that 37 per cent. of the criminals examined have ears of this kind. It would seem therefore that they indicate bad instincts. But another author, Marro, has shown that this is much exaggerated; in a study of 500 subjects he found this abnormality in only 7.8 per cent. Before drawing any conclusions we must know whether its prevalence among honest people is as great as this—a statistical study yet to be made. . . .

"In closing we may ask what is the use of the outer ear. This is briefly answered—of no use, or next to none. With many animals—the horse, for instance—it is evidently intended to collect sounds, and to concentrate them in some degree on the ear-drum;

to this end it is often given great mobility, so that the cavity may be directed toward the supposed source of sound. In man it is absolutely immobile, altho certain persons are able to give it slight movements, good for nothing except to 'astonish the gallery.' One physiologist has inquired whether, in spite of this, the convolutions of the outer ear might not be able to conduct sound. Consequently, he leveled off hills and valleys by filling the latter with wax; the result was that audition was changed in no respect, except that the 'patient' remarked that he was not quite so well able to tell the direction from which sounds came. The outer ear may, then, be intended to tell us from which direction sounds come. It fills this office so badly that if a maker of acoustic apparatus gave us such an instrument, we should refuse to accept it. This does not mean that we should cut off our ears or hide them; the ears have perhaps concealed powers that we know not. Who would have suspected, for instance, some years ago, that they would one day serve to identify rascals whose business it is to annoy us?"—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

ELECTRIC LIGHTS OF A CITY EXTINGUISHED BY FLIES.

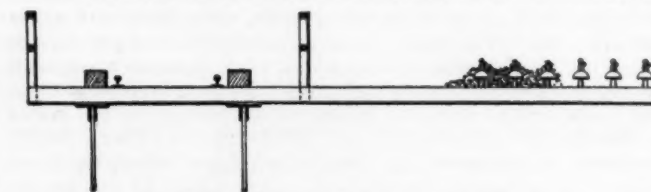
IT is hard to believe that a slender, wasp-like fly, less than an inch in length, a thousand of which would scarcely weigh an ounce, should gather in sufficient numbers to shut down the electric lights of a large city, yet this, says Charles L. Fitch in *The Electrical World and Engineer*, is exactly what happened at St. Paul one day recently. Says Mr. Fitch:

"During the months of June and July of each year that section is visited by large numbers of a pale-green dipterous insect familiarly known as the 'shad-fly,' possibly because of its resemblance to the variety which appears in more easterly localities about the time the shad are running. These little pests are most in evidence after dark in the neighborhood of the electric street-lamps, about which they hold a nightly carnival, incidentally dropping on the back and neck of the passer-by, about which they crawl to his infinite annoyance. Their presence in the cities is undoubtedly due to the attraction of the electric lights, as their especial breeding-ground is found in swampy neighborhoods and on the banks of rivers and lakes, where they appear in great numbers. The accompanying illustration shows the shad-fly full size.



SHAD-FLY.

"The power of the St. Paul lights is supplied from Apple River Falls, some twenty-seven miles away, in the State of Wisconsin, and the electric transmission line, which was built under the supervision of the writer and is operated at 25,000 volts, crosses the St. Croix River on the Wisconsin Central Railroad bridge. The wires, six in number, are here supported on 8-inch by 8-inch oak beams, as illustrated herewith, extending out 16 feet from the south side of the structure at the level of the



TRANSMISSION LINES SHORT-CIRCUITED BY FLIES.

track, each wire being 18 inches from its neighbor and over 12 inches above the supporting arm below.

"A large portion of the power transmitted is utilized as direct current, through the medium of six-phase rotary converters, and when one evening, about eight o'clock, the converters went 'out of step,' thereby paralyzing the whole system, the attention of the operators at the generating-station was at once directed to the St. Croix bridge, some five miles away, by a series of brilliant electric discharges, which illuminated the whole heavens. The line was at once cut out, and an emergency crew despatched to repair the supposed breakdown. They were much puzzled

upon their arrival to find everything in perfect order, no evidence of any short circuit being visible on either wires, insulators, or cross-arms. After some delay the current was again turned on, and the cause of the trouble then became apparent, for the flies soon gathered in such numbers on some of the arms that they formed a solid bridge from wire to wire, and the flash of each discharge, while it destroyed thousands, only added fuel to the flames by attracting additional thousands to the spot. The shut-down lasted about an hour, and it was found necessary to station an attendant upon the bridge, who was provided with a wooden hoe attached to a long pole, with which, from time to time, he dislodged the insects from the cross-arms, as soon as they collected in dangerous numbers. This incident is unique and probably unprecedented."

Draining the Zuider Zee.—It is more than fifty years since this project was first under contemplation by the Dutch Government and people. "The scheme proposed," says *The National Geographic Magazine*, "would restore to cultivation and habitation a tract of land comprising about 490,000 acres. This land was submerged in the terrible storms of the ninth and twelfth centuries, and has since been lying at an average depth of ten feet below the surface of the sea. It is reckoned that the cost of this restoration would be something like \$50,000,000, but that the value of the reclaimed land would repay the cost at least three times over. At present the Zuider Zee is too shallow for navigation, and its shores are constantly inundated and hardly better than swamps. It is proposed to construct a dike, twenty-eight miles in length, from Enkhuizen to the river Yssel, and by steam-pumps to remove the water south of this dike. Through the reclaimed area canals are to be made, with railroads along their banks. Thus distances would be shortened—Friesland and North Holland, for example, being thirty miles nearer by railway than at present. A new province, to be called Wilhelminaland, would be added to the Netherlands, and the territory of the little kingdom would be increased one-sixteenth. Various modifications have recently been proposed in the comprehensive plan submitted by the Dutch engineers in 1870, and it is still an open question whether the entire project will be undertaken, and if so, when. The time requisite for completion of the drainage is estimated by different experts as from twelve to thirty-six years."

Roof-Gardens on Private Houses.—*The Hospital* calls for the construction of glass-roofed rooms at the tops of private houses, where children may receive the benefits of open-air play free from the dust and dirt of the street. It says:

"The desirability of children passing a considerable portion of their time in the open air is manifest, while unfortunately it is equally manifest that in most cases town children can not obtain fresh air without inhaling the foulest of dust. Infinitely better would it be for a child to play about in its roof conservatory, as it could do for hours every day, than to take its perfunctory 'walk' or be wheeled through the London streets at a level of only about thirty inches from the ground. We notice that at a recent meeting of the American Pediatric Society, Dr. Northrup reported that by his advice a sun-room had been built on the roof of a private house in New York, a playroom in which fresh air and sunlight can be enjoyed without dust and free from the dangers of the streets, and that the family for whom the structure was built had had the satisfaction of finding that their child, who had been very delicate, grew up strong and well. But our suggestion is not merely to build a playroom on the roof, but to make this glass-covered room itself form the roof of the building, much as a weaving shed is made to form the roof of a mill in the textile factories in the North of England."

Prehistoric Glaciers.—An interesting discovery by Baron Toll of buried glaciers from the Glacial Period on Great Lyakho Islands in New Siberia is noted in *Nature*. These fossil glaciers, as Baron Toll describes them, "are masses of ice, not of river ice, or of ice formed in clefts, but undoubtedly of a glacial ice, dating from the Glacial Period, and covered with more recent layers of soil. As to the mammoth, the rhinoceros, and other

extinct mammals, it seems impossible, since the researches of Schmidt, Tcherskiy, Bunge, and Toll, not to accept the last author's conclusion, namely: 'The mammoths and the other contemporary mammals lived on the spots where we now find their relics; they died out owing to a change in the physico-geographical conditions of the region. The bodies of these mammals, which have not died in consequence of some sudden catastrophe, were deposited in a cold region, partly on river terraces, and partly on the shores of lakes and on the surfaces of the glaciers, and there they were gradually buried in loam. They have been preserved in the same way as have been preserved the masses of ice underneath, owing to a permanent and perhaps increasing cold.'"

Sensitiveness of the Telephone.—An interesting investigation of the sensitiveness of the telephone, as an electromagnetic and acoustic apparatus, has just been made by Dr. Wien in Germany. From an abstract in *The Electrical World and Engineer*, we learn that the distinctness of speech was about the same in four telephones experimented with, but that the Bell telephone had by far the smallest resistance of the four. We quote:

"The Bell telephone has all along a smaller sensitiveness than the other three instruments, in accordance with its smaller resistance. All the four telephones show a specially high sensitiveness for the currents between the pitches 500 and 3,000. Both downward and upward the sensitiveness decreases rapidly, so that, for instance, in a Bell telephone for a pitch of 64 vibrations per second, a nearly 10,000-fold current intensity, or a more than 100,000,000-fold current energy, is required to produce an audible note than for a pitch of 1024. This steep fall in the sensitiveness for high and low pitches can not be explained solely by the acoustic properties of the telephone or the proper notes of the diaphragm, but is most largely due to the variations in the sensitiveness of the human ear. The most important and characteristic notes of the human voice fall between the pitches 500 and 3,000, where all the four telephones show the greatest sensitiveness. This circumstance probably conduces greatly to the distinctness of transmission. On the other hand, the differences in sensitiveness for comparatively small differences of pitch are very great just within this range, since the most important proper notes of the diaphragm fall within it. The human ear has, however, an astonishing sensibility for the characteristic marks of the vowels and consonants, which are not even obliterated by the great changes in the timbre bound to take place in consequence of the acoustic and electromagnetic properties of the telephone."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

An interesting experiment showing that insects are sensitive to Roentgen rays is thus described in *The American X-Ray Journal*: "A box was made half of wood and half of sheet lead. In the wooden half a number of larvae of flies, bees, beetles, and other insects was placed, and the box was then put in the field of the x-rays. The insect colony at once became greatly excited, and after crawling to and fro finally emigrated, to a worm, to the leaden half of the box, where the rays could not penetrate. The experiment was repeated many times, and always with the same result. A similar experiment was tried with the blind larvae of a certain species of beetle. A number of them were placed in an open cigar-box, which also contained a metal box with an opening. No sooner were the rays turned on than the insects showed signs of distress. Their uneasiness increased, and in a little while they all sought refuge in the metal box. As the larvae in the second experiment were entirely sightless, their perception of the rays must take place through the nerves of the skin."

COMMENTING on the recent accident to the Brooklyn Bridge, *The Railway and Engineering Review* says: "Engineers, writers for the press, and the public should not forget in a time of excitement and trouble the extraordinary and indeed unprecedented work which the executive officers of the bridge have done in the past and are still doing. On the two sets of railroads, namely, the bridge railroad and the trolley, close to one hundred million passengers are handled in a year, and these have to be handled to and from one terminal point at each end of the bridge. We think it is true that the next most crowded terminal in the world—namely, the Liverpool Street Station of the Great Eastern Railway in London—handles less than half of this number of passengers. Of course, traffic has grown from year to year so rapidly that it has always been ahead of the facilities, and this, perhaps, will always be true. But within the physical limits which have surrounded the work of the administrative officers of the bridge they have performed a service in transportation that any set of men would be proud of."

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

SIKHISM: THE CREED OF A MILITANT RACE.

SIKHISM, the faith of the hardy race who disputed the sovereignty of the Punjab in India with the English during the first half of the past century, contains much that has proved attractive to students of religious development. Some facts about it are given by Sir Lepel Griffin, for many years connected with the Indian civil service. It had its origin, he points out, in a passionate revolt against the chains of form and priestly caste which its founders believed had been fastened by Brahmanism about the feet and hands of every Hindu. Singularly enough, Nānak, the founder of this East Indian Protestantism, was a contemporary of Martin Luther, having been born in 1469. Altho Brahmanism is in its essential philosophy a tolerant and all-embracing religion, with elements of theism, polytheism, and pantheism, and while to the elect, Sir Lepel remarks, it provides conceptions of Deity "as noble and exalted as those to be found in any religion of East and West," yet like many other high faiths its common exoteric form had become encrusted with many superstitious and grievous burdens. For the mass of the Hindus, philosophical and ethical ideal counted for little or nothing, says the writer, and the strict observance of the rules of caste, with the Brahman or priest as the head of the social pyramid, was everything. "The greedy Brahman demanded his fees at birth and marriage and death, and to feed Brahmans," says Sir Lepel, "was a virtue far above devotion to mercy, truth, and justice." We quote further:

"It was against this privileged hierarchy that Nānak directed his attack; and, altho he did not preach the abolition of caste, as was subsequently done by Govind Singh, his writings are filled with acknowledgments of the brotherhood and equality of man, and he admitted all classes as his disciples. Nor did his gentle and quietist nature attempt a direct assault on the Brahman class, other than by the denunciation of the idol worship on the profits of which they lived. He even allowed and approved the use of Brahmans as private and domestic priests, to perform such ceremonial as was unobjectionable; tho he rejected their teachings, together with the doctrine of Vedas and Purānas, the Hindu sacred books."

The Sikh gospel, known as the *Adi Granth*, forms an enormous volume written in exceedingly obscure *Gurmukhi*. It has been translated into English by a German professor, Dr. Ernest Trumpp, who spent seven years of labor upon it. Sir Lepel speaks of its contents as follows:

"There are, it is true, many puerilities and vain repetitions from which the books of no Eastern religion are free; but it is scarcely possible to turn a single page without being struck by the beauty and originality of the images and the enlightened devotion of its language. No Catholic ascetic has ever been more absorbed in the contemplation of the Deity than was the prophet Nānak when giving utterance to his rhapsodies.

"The monotheism of Nānak is often not to be distinguished from Pantheism; and, unless a creed be provided with a personal and anthropomorphic deity, it is always difficult to draw the line between the two. Sometimes Nānak represents God as a self-conscious spirit protecting the creatures He has made; an ever-present Providence, who can be approached through the Guru, the heaven-appointed teacher, and ready to bless and emancipate the soul which worships sincerely and humbly. At other times, man and the universe and all that exists are but a part of and an emanation from God, who produces all things out of Himself and to whom all finally return. In the same way, it would seem that Nānak in no way denied the existence of the lower deities of the Hindu mythology; for the poetic pantheism on which his belief in the one supreme God was based could hardly exist without the symbolism which inspired all nature with life, and found a spiritual force behind and within every manifestation of natural energy. Yet all such deities he asserted to be indifferent and unworthy of regard, much as the early preachers of Christianity treated the gods of Greece and Rome,

in whose existence they believed, but whose dominion was to be overthrown by Christ. Idolatry he condemned, and the service pleasing to the Deity was that of the heart; neither vain ceremonies nor the austerities which the Hindu ascetics had been wont to consider as the key which unlocked the highest and most secret mysteries, but a pure, unselfish life, a faith in God revealed through the instrumentality of the appointed Guru or spiritual guide. Charity and good works were commendable and the worthy fruits of an unselfish life; but they were not of themselves sufficient to release the soul from its bondage to sense and illusion, or to save it from transmigration, the ever-present dread of the Hindu, or to insure its reunion with God. These results could only be attained by meditation on God and through the saving grace of His name. . . .

"He was a true prophet, and accomplished worthily an exalted mission. His system, like all systems, had many imperfections; and chief of them were those which equally belonged to Calvinism, in the substitution of one tyranny for another, and the overshadowing of all human joy by a predestined lot which no faith or virtue could modify. But the good far outweighed the evil. Nānak taught the wisdom and omnipotence of one Supreme God, and the equality of all men, of whatever race or creed, in His sight; purity of life, charity, humility, and temperance. He enjoined kindness to animals, and forbade both female infanticide and the burning of widows. He condemned idolatry and asceticism, and preached the wholesome doctrine that the state of the worker and householder was the most honorable condition, and that, to find God and serve Him, it was not necessary to practise austerities or retire from active life."

After Nānak's death, about 1538, other leaders of inferior capacity arose, but in spite of this Sikhism made great progress, and the famous city of Amritsar was founded, with the Golden Temple, which forms a center for the Sikh worship. Sir Lepel appears to think, however, that its period of growth has ceased. A spirit of laxity of faith has followed the restless vigor of its militant period, and it seems likely that the old sacerdotal spirit of Brahmanism will reabsorb Sikhism. The recuperative power of Brahmanism is very great, the writer points out: "History records how it overthrew and expelled the creed of Buddhism for Hindustan, and it seems likely to repeat the process with Sikhism."

THE HARDSHIPS OF PRIESTS.

THE noticeably long death-list of priests in the Roman Catholic diocese of Greater New York during the past ecclesiastical year prompts a writer in the New York *Sun* to seek a cause for what he regards as a disproportionately large mortality. He says: "The life of a young priest is hard and exacting. Long hours of fasting and confinement in the confessional, and irregular and unhealthful meals, tell on his constitution, as the long death-list above cited shows."

It is charged also that the seminary life of a candidate for the priesthood has much to do with early deaths among the Catholic clergy. In support of this last statement the writer mentioned quotes the Rev. Dr. John Talbot Smith, who, in an elaborate work on "Our Seminaries, an Essay on Clerical Training," contends that fifty per cent. of the newly ordained need nursing for months and sometimes for years after ordination. Says *The Sun* writer:

"The picture he [Dr. Smith] draws is not an inviting one; or rather he says he presents to dispassionate consideration two pictures—on this side a graduating class from any of our colleges, robust, cheerful, muscular, active, healthy men, strong enough for any tussle that life may give them; on that side the same class five years later going up for ordination after the seminary career, every man lean or worn in appearance, the little flesh left them of a flabby texture, their stomachs and nerves played out, and the pleasant certainty ahead that an ordinary attack of disease will end them, or that years of recuperation will be required, or that real health will never be theirs again."

"The causes for this he describes as an insistence on European

ideas of clerical decorum in the seminaries, lack of proper exercise in deference to a theory of clerical physique and activity that does not belong to this country, and the sudden and cheerless change of food. He has yet to meet the priest who could speak in praise of his seminary refectory. It was usually run on the simplicity basis."

Bishop McQuaid, of Rochester, is also quoted as declaring that priests "do not care to recall their sufferings and hardship nor count up the number of their associates who fell by the way, victims of unwholesome food, unhealthy housing, nor think of the broken-down constitutions leaving the seminary, that soon succumbed to the exhausting labor of the ministry."

MUSIC IN THE CHURCH.

THE association of music with religious worship is recorded from earliest periods of human history. The pagan rites of Persia, India, Greece, and Rome all found expression in some kind of religious music, tho the form was barbaric and crude. It remained for the Christian Church, however, to develop ecclesiastical music of any real dignity or beauty. "From its very beginning," observes Louis C. Elson, the Boston musical critic, "the Christian Church made music its handmaid." He continues (in *The International Monthly*):

"The earliest music that can be traced in its worship was a free improvisation, borrowed from the Greek *skolion*. This latter was always in evidence at ancient Athenian banquets, and was a spontaneous outburst in praise of love, or wine, or the host, or any subject connected with the feasting and merrymaking. In their gatherings in Rome, even in the first century, the Christian converts employed a similar music; but, as they were far less educated in art than the older Greek banqueters, they often borrowed from the pagan Romans the tunes to which they set their roughly enthusiastic poems; only melodies that had been contaminated by use in the theaters or in the temples were excluded.

"The singing above described generally took place at the evening meal, which was thereby elevated into a religious service, and these '*agapæ*,' as they were called, find their modern counterpart in the 'love-feasts' of the Methodist Church of the present. The music was in direct touch with the Scriptures, for Clemens Romanus, contemporary of St. Paul, states that the Twenty-third Psalm was most frequently chanted. Exodus xv. and Daniel iii. were favorite themes among the different Scriptural subjects selected. Extemporaneous praise of the new religion, of martyrdom, or of sanctity was sometimes added to the excerpts from the holy writings."

Martin Luther stands out as the religious teacher who, above all others, recognized the possibilities of popular church music, and many ascribe the real beginning of congregational singing to his influence. It was his custom to take the folk-songs of the day and adapt them to religious purposes. Says Mr. Elson:

"As he wished all of his congregation to sing, he chose many a popular song to lead them into the fields of music. He is known to have answered the objectors to this method with, 'I do not see why the devil should be allowed to have all the good tunes!' A pregnant lesson can be drawn by some of the latter-day 'popular' hymn composers from the title of one of the hymn collections approved by the great reformer. It runs, 'Soldiers', 'Sailors', and 'Miners' Songs, and other Street-songs altered to the Service of God.' It is in the 'altered to the service of God' that the true point of Luther's music must be sought. The 'altering' consisted in fitting the most dignified counterpoint to the folk-melodies."

In America, declares Mr. Elson, we are but slowly emerging from the results of the legacy of the Pilgrims and the Puritans, who clung closely to Calvinistic precedents. The prejudice against the organ died very hard in New England, and as late as 1790 a wealthy parishioner of a Boston church pleaded for permission to throw its organ into the harbor, promising full reimbursement for the loss of the instrument! These Puritanical

scruples having been now almost entirely overcome, the prospects for American church music, in the opinion of the writer, are very bright. Discussing the form and future of ecclesiastical music in this country, Mr. Elson says:

"The question of what the ideal musical church service should be is not to be answered offhand, but surely some points of guidance may be gathered from the historical facts already cited. In the first place, the musical church service of the future should free itself from all fetters of prejudice, and admit every form of musical art that has been used successfully by any denomination whatever. The boy choir should not be suffered to be a matter of creed, nor the orchestra to remain almost entirely a Catholic institution, so far as the church service is concerned. An eclectic system of church music should be evolved, in which every element above described might be free to enter in, according to the exigencies of the occasion, and limited only by the size of the edifice, of the congregation, or of its purse. Naturally, the Catholic mass, as a whole, could not enter into the Protestant Church, for it is fitted closely to its own ritual; but certain of its chief numbers could be employed, if given a good English paraphrase. The mighty choral should be assiduously cultivated. If every service contained at least one broad chorus of the dignified character of 'St. Ann's,' it would be a good corrective for much of the jingly music that obtains in the United States.

"A less restricted repertory would be the first and most immediate result of some of the changes suggested above. The best part of the music of each church would enter into the service of all. Some of the shorter Palestrina numbers, 'O Bone Jesu,' 'Jesu Rex,' or 'Rex Virtutis,' for example, would appear with proper paraphrases in English; the orchestra, or some of its instruments, would be used as in the great Catholic services; from the Anglican Church the anthems of Purcell and of the older composers would be borrowed; from both of the above churches the custom of stately chanting would be derived; Bach would prove an absolute mine of beauty; the hearty congregational work of the Evangelical churches would be retained, but enriched and brought nearer to the ideal of Martin Luther.

"This, roughly outlined, should be the church music of the future. It seems strange that, while music in general has taken up all modes of expression and treatment, church music should have been hampered by serious limitations and should have developed only in special grooves, according to the denomination that used it. The Catholic Church has had the most varied, the most artistic, the most powerful music, simply because so few limitations were placed upon it, and even in this church the grandeur of the Bach chorals is unknown.

"America has in recent years made giant strides in general music; the contemptuous European saying of sixty years ago, 'Who reads an American book?' could have been applied with tenfold force to the hearing of an American composition. To-day we have great composers even in the largest forms of composition, largely symphony orchestras, renowned string quartettes, operatic performances equal to the best that Europe can hear; it is possible that it is reserved for our country to break the fetters in which church music has been so long confined; it is not beyond the bounds of probability that the American churches may yet establish a musical service that shall contain within itself the best artistic results that the ages have brought forth in every church and in every nation."

A Christian Church Edifice Fourteen Centuries Old.

—One of the recent finds made by archeologists is that of an edifice adjoining the Roman Forum, at the base of the Palatine Hill, which was turned into a Christian church probably at the end of the fifth or beginning of the sixth century. The ruins have something more than this mere fact of their antiquity to arouse interest. Writing in *Biblia* (August) Prof. T. M. Lindsay says:

"The peculiar interest of this old church—Old St. Mary's it was called—consists, in my opinion, in the fact that the Christians of Rome in the end of the fifth century were able to secure this particular building for their public worship. This leads us to ask what the ancient edifice was, and why it was such a triumph for Christianity to secure it for a place of worship.

"The answer, briefly, is that the ancient pagan building, which,

as the excavations reveal, was used as a Christian church from the end of the fifth on to the eighth century at least was originally the cradle of that peculiar Roman state cult which deified the ruler of the empire, and which demanded that every subject in the vast realm should worship him. To refuse was treason. Every collection of *Acta Martyrum* shows us that the last test of royalty, imposed on Christians when brought before Roman magistrates, was that they should sacrifice to the *Divus*, or to the living emperor. Refusal meant imprisonment, torture, death in the amphitheater or by the executioner. The central shrine for this pagan state cult in Asia was Pergamos, and we have evidence of the abhorrence and dread with which this worship inspired all Christians when the author of the Apocalypse describes the city as that 'where Satan's seat is.' If Pergamos was so regarded, we can imagine the triumph of Roman Christians when they were at length able to take possession of what may be called the very cradle of the offensive cult."

GERMAN REACTION AGAINST THE HIGHER CRITICISM.

IN Germany the reaction against the newer Old-Testament criticism seems to be gaining in momentum and in dignity. It is true that at the universities, where since the death of Professor Bachman, of Rostock, two decades ago, there has not been a pronounced representative of the traditional views, the principles of Wellhausenism reign supreme, altho many of its conclusions are sharply antagonized by such men as Strack, of Berlin; v. Orelli, of Basel; Volck, of Dorpat; König, of Bonn; Kamphausen, of Kiel, and others. The most pronounced antagonist of the Wellhausen scheme, in university circles, has been Hommel, of Munich, who is not, however, a member of a theological faculty. After the manner of Professor Sayce, Hommel has endeavored to overthrow Wellhausenism by demonstrating that its teachings are in most decided opposition to recognized results of archeological research. Within recent weeks he has again published a significant brochure, entitled, "Der Götterdienst der alten Araber und die altisraelitische Ueberlieferung," in which he assails one of the "sure" positions of Wellhausenism, according to which the worship of Jahveh was simply adopted by the Israelites from the Kenites and had no connection whatever with the worship of the sidereal heavens. It is claimed by Hommel that the earliest West Semites worshiped the moon-god Ai, and that Moses gave to this worship a new content when he transformed it into the Jahveh worship. Corroborative of Hommel's explanation, it is claimed, is the fact that the moon-god was for the earliest Semites of the West the weather-god, which, as maintained by Wellhausen, originally belonged to the Jahve of Israel.

More important still as indicative of the trend of thought in this department of research in Germany is the fact that papers of acknowledged scientific standing do not hesitate to criticize sharply the methods and results of the Wellhausen school. Characteristic of this tendency is an article that lately appeared in the scientific *Beilage* of the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung* (No. 19), the most influential journal of its kind. The article runs in substance as follows:

"The results of the Wellhausen school are based on a subjective critical dissection of the sources, and method that has been tried and was discarded by the Homer philologists of long ago. It is plainly to be seen that a similar reaction is setting in among the Pentateuch scholars of the day. Both the history of the Old-Testament text, which we no longer possess in its oldest form, and also the increasing abundance of archeological knowledge of the ancient Orient, in which the history of Israel lies embedded, teach us most plainly that the idea that the Old-Testament sources can be reliably dissected as the Wellhausen school attempt to dissect them is a dream, and that a building erected on such a foundation can have no permanence. The problem concerning the character and origin of Israel's religion is far from

being solved, and the coming decades will witness a battle all along the line in this department. The position taken by Hommel and others is antagonizing subjective criticism on the basis of archeological data is the program of a new tendency that aims to a greater or less extent to restore the traditional views of the Old Testament, and as such deserves the warmest welcome."

The most pronounced opposition to the new school has come and still does come from the ministry, and among these none is more active than Pastor Edward Rupprecht, D.D., who has, in view of his services, recently received from the Bavarian Government a high ecclesiastical rank and title.—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

THE AMERICAN STANDARD REVISION OF THE BIBLE.

WHEN the International Committee on Bible Revision finished its work in 1885, there were many words and phrases and also several questions of principle on which the American and English revisers could not agree. The American scholars finally assented to the compromise of indicating some points of difference in an appendix, agreeing to reserve for fourteen years the issue of any revised text of their own. These fourteen years were completed in 1899. Before and since that time the work of the American revisers has been continued steadily, and the final result of their labor was presented to the public this week. The existing English translations of the Bible, whether the Authorized Version of 1611 or the Revision of 1881 and 1885, in many cases do not convey to present-day American and English readers the truths and thoughts of the Bible expressed in language with which we are familiar. "All Bibles, Hebrew, Greek, Syriac, Latin, German, French, English, are the results of many revisions," writes Dr. Howard Osgood of the American Revision Committee in *The Sunday-School Times* (July 27). He continues:

"The revision under King James, 1611, followed a hundred years of repeated revisions. That revision was an admirable work of high scholarship in Hebrew, Greek, and English. But so great has been the change in the meaning and usage of words that some translations, accurate in their day, now misrepresent the Hebrew and Greek, as well as the English, of three hundred years ago. 'Prevent' then meant to go before, meet; now it means to hinder. 'Let' then signified to hinder; now it means to permit. 'Lust' then, as in German now, meant pure pleasure, desire, joy; now it breathes vile passion. And so through a long list of words.

"Could those good scholars rise up and see how time has wrenched and changed their words, they, with the same common sense shown in their previous work, would be the first to advocate making the translation plain in the words of to-day. They believed, as we do, that the Bible was given to be made clear, and not to be wrapped up in dead and misleading terms."

Altho the revision of 1885 eliminated many such antiquated words, it is claimed for the new American Revision that it goes further in this regard and completes what its predecessor began. A number of the striking substitutions are given, which we reproduce here:

AMERICAN REVISION.

And God said, Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth.—*Gen. i. 20.*

Now the time that the children of Israel dwelt in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years.—*Exod. xii. 40.*

And that ye may make a distinction between the holy and the common.—*Lev. x. 10.*

ENGLISH REVISION.

And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and let fowl fly, etc.—*Gen. i. 20.*

Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, which they sojourned in Egypt, was four hundred, etc.—*Exod. xii. 40.*

And that ye may put difference between the holy and the common.—*Lev. x. 10.*

On the behalf of the children of Israel, that it may be theirs to do the service of Jehovah.—*Num. viii. 11.*

Jehovah, the God of your fathers, make you a thousand times as many as ye are.—*Deut. i. 11.*

A great altar to look upon.—*Josh. xxii. 10.*

From heaven fought the stars,
From their courses they fought
against Sisera.—*Judges v. 20.*

God, my rock, in him will I take
refuge.—*2 Sam. xxii. 3.*

And when they were departed
from him (for they left him very
sick).—*2 Chron. xxiv. 25.*

Their young ones become strong.
—*Job xxxix. 4.*

I shall be satisfied, when I awake,
with beholding thy form.—*Psa. xvii. 15.*

I said in my haste,
All men are liars.—*Psa. cxvi. 11.*

But the way of the transgressor
is hard.—*Prov. xiii. 15.*

My anguish, my anguish! I am
pained at my very heart.—*Jer. iv. 10.*

Girded with girdles upon their
loins, with flowing turbans upon
their heads, all of them princes to
look upon.—*Ezek. xxiii. 15.*

The more the prophets called
them, the more they went from
them.—*Hos. xi. 2.*

I heard, and my body trembled,
My lips quivered at the voice;
Rottenness entereth into my bones,
and I trembled in my place;
Because I must wait quietly for the
day of trouble,
For the coming up of the people
that invadeth us.—*Hab. iii. 16.*

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To quote Dr. Osgood further:

"Perhaps hasty critics will be astonished that so many of the references in the margins of the revision of 1885 to the Samaritan, Greek, Syriac, and Latin Bibles have been omitted in the American revision. They have been omitted because in a hundred and fifty-one out of two hundred and forty marginal references the majority of the versions is against the references; in thirty-three places not a single version supports the reference. In 1885 the American Company voted against that set of references, not because they were ignorant on the subject, or wished to preclude investigation, or to shield any theory of inspiration, but because, as true to the Hebrew, Samaritan, Greek, Syriac, and Latin Bibles, they could not approve statements so plainly inaccurate. With no critical text of any of the versions, it is large guessing in the dark to stamp any of them on the margin of our Bibles, when a few years' investigations may nullify the proof. A greatly reduced number of references to the versions that give some help in difficult places has been retained, and the versions are quoted that contain them."

Prof. Arthur S. Phelps, of Yale, writing in *The Standard* (Bapt.), states his preference for the newly offered work thus:

"In three respects the American Revision of 1901 is superior to the English Revision of 1885. First, the original languages are more fearlessly and faithfully rendered, the American preferences being in nearly every case more accurate. Second, obsolete, obscure, and antiquated words and expressions, of which our conservative brothers across the sea are so fond, have been replaced by modern and understandable English. 'Sith,' 'basilisks,' 'astonied,' 'afore,' 'sodden,' 'minished,' 'holpen,' 'wot,' 'clouted,' 'ouches,' and kindred uncouth terms will not have to be explained by the wise paterfamilias at family prayers. A score of other odd-looking words will be properly spelled. Countless instances of bad grammar and worse rhetoric will be corrected. Third, we shall see the most sacred name on the page

On the behalf of the children of Israel, that they may be to do the service of the Lord.—*Num. viii. 11.*

The Lord, the God of fathers, make you a thousand times so many more as ye are.—*Deut. i. 11.*

A great altar to see to.—*Josh. xxii. 10.*

They fought from heaven,
The stars in their courses fought
against Sisera.—*Judges v. 20.*

The God of my rock, in him will I
trust.—*2 Sam. xxii. 3.*

And when they were departed
from him (for they left him in great
diseases).—*2 Chron. xxiv. 25.*

Their young ones are in good lik-
ing.—*Job xxxix. 4.*

I shall be satisfied, when I am
awake, with thy likeness.—*Psa. xvii. 15.*

I said in my haste,
All men are a lie.—*Psa. cxvi. 11.*

But the way of the treacherous is
ruined.—*Prov. xiii. 15.*

My bowels, my bowels! I am
pained at my very heart.—*Jer. iv. 10.*

Girded with girdles upon their
loins, exceeding in dyed attire upon
their heads, all of them princes to
look upon.—*Ezek. xxiii. 15.*

As they called them, so they went
from them.—*Hos. xi. 2.*

I heard, and my belly trembled,
My lips quivered at the voice;
Rottenness entered into my bones,
and I trembled in my place;
That I should rest in the day of
trouble,
When it cometh up against the peo-
ple which invaded him in
troops.—*Hab. iii. 6.*

of Scripture. Influenced by Jewish fear, born of the misinterpretation of an Old-Testament verse, English versions have generally avoided the name of Jehovah, substituting for it GOD or LORD, in capital letters; when these words have appeared in lower-case letters they have been the translation of other Hebrew words."

But Professor Phelps expects the new version to come into favor slowly. He remembers that it took the King James version fifty years to win popular esteem. He says, "Persons who would not be seen out of doors with their mother's bonnets, will valiantly defend the superiority of their 'mother's Bible,' " and he continues:

"A wellnigh omnipotent foe stands ready to fight the new revision to the death. That foe is ignorance. 'Ignorance,' says George Eliot, 'is not so damnable as humbug, but when it prescribes pills it may happen to do more harm.' The man who said he wanted the Bible for which the martyrs faced the stake would find the version of 1611 too modern for him. The experienced Sunday-school teacher who declared, 'The Bible is what we want. No books or papers or revised versions can take its place or be a substitute for the Bible itself,' is after something she can never get until she can read the Bible in the original Hebrew, Chaldee, and Greek. The man who asserted that God inspired but two books—the original texts and the Authorized Version—what shall we do with him and his doughty followers? Will it be worth our time to show him that there are three dozen verses and passages in the Authorized Version that were not in the originals at all, but have been inserted by theologians more strenuous than honest, or climbed up some other way with the Latin Vulgate as their ladder?"

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

DEAN FARRAR thinks that while there is less of open and ostentatious infidelity in these days than there was in the days of Charles II., or in the early years of the eighteenth century, there is a far more widely spread spirit of doubt, and even of positive unbelief, than there has ever been, even among men who have never professedly abandoned allegiance to the religion of their fathers.

THERE are more than 25,000 Indians and Eskimos in Alaska, of whom 7,600 are Protestants, 13,735 are under the care of the Greek Church, and about 500 are Catholics. Ten Protestant societies are at work: Presbyterians, Moravians, Episcopalians, Baptists, Congregationalists, Methodists, Quakers, and Swedish Lutherans. The Greek Church receives \$60,000 a year from the Russian Government, and yet is steadily declining in influence.

CONTROVERSY flourishes over the question whether the Apostle Paul was a life-long celibate or whether he was ever married. The celibate theory is shaken considerably by the scriptural passage in Acts xxvi. 10, where Paul says that when Christians "were put to death I gave my vote against them." The word "vote" is equivalent to the death-ballot, which, it is urged, could not have been cast except by a member of the Sanhedrin, and in order to belong to that august body a man was required to be thirty years old and to be a husband.

ALTHO the sale of livings by auction is now illegal, the traffic is continued by means of newspaper advertisements as well as by methods adopted by the clerical agents. Here is one of the latest advertisements, appearing in *The Times* (London):

ADVOWSON. Gloucestershire border. Gravel subsoil. Station two miles. Rectory contains four sitting, 13 bed, dressing rooms, suitable offices; stabling. Hunting, golf. Grand old church, small school. Population 200. No Dissent. Tithe and land £539. Price £1,350.—Dr. E. B. Rouse, 10, Division Street, Sheffield

A WRITER in *The Church Standard* comes to the support of Professor Triggs in his criticism of the literary quality of our hymns. This writer, J. Anketell, ridicules the popular hymn "Beulah Land." The word "Beulah," he says, is the feminine participle of the Hebrew verb *B-ayin-L*, and signifies married (Isaiah lxii. 4). He accordingly rewrites the refrain of the hymn as follows:

"O Married land, sweet Married land!
Upon thy highest mount I stand,
And look away across the sea.
Where mansions are prepared for me!"

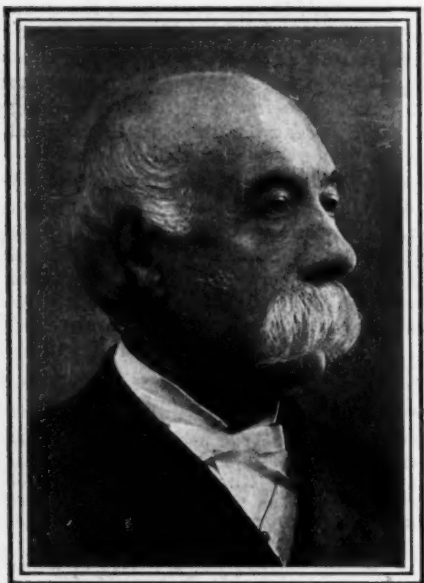
QUITE appropriately with the appearance of the new American Revision this week, a copy of what is said to be the oldest Bible in the United States has come into public notice. It is owned by Rev. John Herr, of Lima, Ill., in whose family it has remained for twelve generations. It must have considerable value, since there are but three copies in existence of the original edition of fifty. The *Denver* (Colo.) *Republican* describes the volume as a fine example of medieval printing and says that the original binding of beechwood covered with stamped Russia leather is yet almost intact. The Bible was printed in 1553 at Zurich by two apostate Carthusian monks who were burned at the stake, three years later, for printing in German when Latin only was permitted to be used in religious books. It contains a picture of the last judgment, and wood-engravings with hand-painting.

FOREIGN TOPICS.

FRANCESCO CRISPI AND WHAT HE STOOD FOR.

THE last of the famous quartet of "Italian liberators" passed away with the death of Francesco Crispi, he having shared in the work of uniting "Italia dismembra" with Mazzini, Cavour, and Garibaldi. The late W. J. Stillman, the journalist, who knew Crispi personally for years, recently declared him to have been the ablest statesman in Europe since the death of Bismarck. Crispi, he said, was "the only absolutely honest and patriotic Italian statesman since Cavour."

Signor Crispi, who was in his eighty-third year when he died, was a Sicilian by birth, and received his political education in



THE LATE SIGNOR FRANCESCO CRISPI.

the early days of the *risorgimento*, when Cavour was reorganizing the disordered fragments of Italy into the new united kingdom. He rose to national prominence during the reign of Victor Emmanuel, and was minister of the interior and premier. His greatest achievement was the formation of the Triple Alliance, of which he may be said to have been the father, an achievement which has gained for him the title of the Italian Bismarck.

The ill-starred African colonial venture of Italy, which culminated in the disastrous defeat of the Italian army by Menelik of Abyssinia, in 1896, and a series of bank scandals in Rome in which he was reported to have been concerned, rather clouded his reputation during his last few years. Signor Crispi's life, says the *Temps* (Paris), was a *résumé* of contemporaneous Italian history—"all of which he saw and most of which he was." The *Temps*, referring to the part played by him in the Triple Alliance, declares that he was the incarnation, in Italy, of that spirit of materialism, of blood and iron and thirst for military glory, which Germany had in Bismarck and England is now having in Chamberlain. "Cavour loved peace and order; Crispi conquest and aggrandizement. A new ideal of force, of military grandeur has been substituted for the old ideal of moral grandeur and peaceful triumph on the banks of both the Tiber and the Thames." He recalls, says the *Temps*, in conclusion, one of those Renaissance heroes of Plutarch who was "so clever, so forceful, and yet so lacking in ideals." An anonymous writer in the *Revue Bleue* (Paris) condemns the late statesman severely for bringing about the entrance of Italy into the Triple Alliance. He ruined his country to satisfy his ambition, says this writer. All the honest, idealistic convictions of his youth he cast aside at the dictates of personal ambition. The attempt of Italy "to support the dignity of a first-class power on the resources of a fourth-class one, was the fault of Crispi, and it has been the ruin of his fatherland."

"Can one mention a single political act in all of Signor Crispi's ministerial career which could be called generous, of public utility, or of a really durable character? He desired a general Euro-

pean war, and brought about international combinations which he fondly hoped would precipitate such a war, but he failed miserably. He dreamed of an alliance with England, but never succeeded in bringing it to pass. He thought to give Italy an empire in Africa, and only involved her in a disgraceful adventure. He dreamed of making his country the equal of the greatest military powers, and by his ruinous commercial policy he did not leave her any means of sustaining an army."

All the Berlin journals publish appreciative biographical notices. The *Norddeutsche Zeitung* says: "It befits us in this place to pay a tribute of grateful honor to the memory of a man who was a great Italian, a faithful servant of his king, an eager advocate of the Central European alliance of peace, and, by conviction, a friend of Germany." The *National Zeitung* maintains that by universal consent Crispi must be placed in the first rank of those patriots who brought about Italian unity and raised Italy to her present position as a great power. In Germany it will never be forgotten that Crispi, till he drew his last breath, was the most determined advocate of the German alliance. Most journals deal with the intimate personal relations that were established between Bismarck and Crispi, and recall the saying of the great Chancellor, that the Italian statesman was even more hated than himself. The *Kölnische Zeitung* asserts that "Italy as a great power was never more respected, on the one hand, and never more hated, on the other, than during the periods when Francesco Crispi was at the helm of the state."

Whatever his faults, says the *Epoca* (Madrid), he deserves that respect which is always due those who greatly love their country. The *Herald* (Montreal) calls him the "man of the hour," the leader who had to come when his country needed him—"dogmatic, determined, relentless, unscrupulous, a man of primitive passions, encountering and overcoming others of his kind." Italy is prospering in spite of the materialistic military school represented by Crispi, declare Messrs. King and Okey, in a recently published book. The kingdom, they believe, will soon surprise Europe. They are convinced that, "underneath the slough of misgovernment and corruption and political apathy there is a rejuvenated nation instinct with the qualities that make a great people."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

A STEP TOWARD PRESS REFORM IN RUSSIA.

UNDUE importance seems to have been attributed in the American newspapers to the recent measure of press reform ordered by the Czar. In Russia few editors have manifested any enthusiasm over the change. Their comments are reserved, but while they express gratitude they intimate that the favor is a very small one and that they are entitled to much more radical concessions. The new law relates to the system of "warnings." Hitherto a warning was perpetual in duration. Once given it was, in the words of a Russian paper, suspended like the sword of Damocles over the editor and his paper or magazine, and never removed. The third warning carried with it temporary or permanent prohibition of the offending periodical, and the revival thereof exposed it anew to the danger of warnings. The new law limits the force of these warnings. The first is to be in effect one year, and the editor who commits no second offense within that year starts at the end of the period with a clear record. If a second warning comes within the same year, the effect thereof will last two years from the date of its appearance, unless a third one intervenes and causes suspension of the publication. The law also abrogates all warnings heretofore given, and releases some papers from the restraints of the preliminary censorship. Commenting upon this reform, the St. Petersburg *Novosti* (which had been warned twice—twenty and ten years ago respectively) says:

"The anomalous condition of the press has suffered aggrava-

tion from the scheme of perpetual warnings. The paper, which had two warnings hanging over it, was necessarily overcautious and timid, and often refrained from expressing honest and useful thoughts of the utmost orthodoxy, becoming quite colorless and lifeless. And this has been the case with the oldest and best papers, which have abundantly proved their loyalty and utility to society and the government. The newer organs, tho less responsible and less necessary to the country, had a decided advantage, as they were free from the penalties of the former, less liberal press law of 1864."

The *Novoye Vremya* (St. Petersburg) remarks that the perpetual warning system put the press in the same category with the gravest political criminals and parricides, as these alone, under the law, were excluded from the benefits of the time-limit to penalties. It points out that the worst features of the press code—suspension with the third warning—remains in full force. It recognizes, however, that the measure is something of a relief. The weekly *Nedelya* (Moscow), however, is not inclined to go even so far as this. It points out that there is a reverse side to the shield, and that the new system has considerable danger within itself. The old law was stringent, it says, but only on paper, for the government was reluctant to give warnings in view of their serious consequences. The penalty was resorted to only in extreme cases, and, in fact, for some time the whole system has been suffered to fall into desuetude. It is to be feared, it continues, that the milder law will revive the practise of giving warnings for trivial causes, and the last state of the press may be worse than the first. A definite law, it says, safeguarding the press and regulating the issue of warnings is indispensable.—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

COMMENTS ON THE DEATH OF THE EMPRESS FREDERICK.

"UNEASY lies the head that wears a crown" is the substance of the European press comment upon the death of the Dowager Empress of Germany. There is no dissent from the tribute to her personal worth and womanly character, and general sympathy and respect is expressed for the courage and patience she displayed during her unhappy later years. Despite her close identification with German life and thought and the fact that she was the mother of the present German Emperor, the press of the Fatherland couches its respectful tributes to her character in much the same terms as tho speaking of a foreign monarch, and British journals declare that she was always an English princess. The hostility at court which embittered her life began with the open enmity of Bismarck, who resented her protest against the bombardment of Paris. She was responsible, he held, for the English influence which was reported to be at work in Berlin during the Franco-Prussian war. The *Reichsanzeiger* (Berlin), the official organ of the imperial Government, preserves a diplomatic silence as to the public and political influence of the late Empress, and limits its comments to her work in the popularizing of science and art. The warm interest which she took in art in particular, says the *Reichsanzeiger*, was "sustained by an exceedingly fine faculty of appreciation, and she constantly promoted the cause of art with her entire sympathy." In an equal degree she devoted her attention to works of mercy and of charity, "to those endeavors which have for their object the amelioration of the lot of the poorer classes and the promotion of the health of the people, and in these spheres her efforts were crowned with splendid success." The *Kölnische Zeitung* and other semi-official journals comment in the same vein. The *Hamburger Nachrichten* declares that for these works of womanly goodness her name will be held by Germans in everlasting grateful remembrance. Viennese journals express admiration for her liberal, progressive views. She was the real consort of the late Emperor, says the *Neue Freie Presse*.

"Both aimed at the highest ideals and were animated by the same aims of progress and culture."

The press of France generally expresses sincere admiration for the character of the Empress. The *Temps* (Paris) declares that France will never forget her protest which, while it was not wholly effectual, prevented much of the horror which might have followed von Moltke's order to bombard Paris. Of all the English princesses, says the *Temps*, she most resembled her father. She had his "quick and clear intelligence, his liberal temperament, his interest in politics, his perseverance, and, above all, his conscience." "She dies in Germany, respected, honored—and a stranger." She was one of those characters of which the



THE LATE EMPRESS FREDERICK.

Almighty seems very careful, says the *Journal des Débats* (Paris), as He sends so few of them to earth.

She was a liberal princess and born to rule, says *The Spectator* (London), and it was the subordinate position which she occupied in common with all German women that was the primary cause of her unhappiness. Referring to her long quarrel with Bismarck, *The Spectator* says:

"She was a liberal princess, and to the old servants of the dynasty such a character was as unintelligible as Carlyle found 'a Jacobin prince of the blood.' Armored as she was in her birth-rank, in which even German heralds could find no flaw, and in the devotion of her husband, she might still, however, have lived down the acrid criticism of Berlin, and have been as popular as Queen Louisa, but that the irony of her fate matched her against the most successful statesman of our age, who detested parliamentarism, disliked brightness in women, and loathed the 'English ideas' which had made a state great tho governed by an unregimented people. He dreaded their infectious quality, and fought the crown princess almost as an enemy."

Her unpopularity in Germany, says *The Guardian* (Manchester), was entirely due to her liberal ideas, which were then regarded as distinctively and peculiarly English.

"Her example and her influence were thrown on the side of a higher and fuller conception of what is due to women and from women than was common in Germany in her youth, or, for that matter, at the present day. Like her husband she was suspected

of liberal and humanitarian leanings, and on both counts she was an object of dislike to the men of 'blood and iron.' In Dr. Busch's accounts of Bismarck's tabletalk we see how the Chancellor chafed under the humanitarian restrictions which 'English' sentiment placed on the conduct of the war with France. Other times, other manners. The Empress Frederick belonged to a bygone generation, in which the mitigation of human suffering, whether in war or in peace, was held a noble aim and one especially dear to Englishmen."

She was a born ruler who was denied scope to rule, says *The Saturday Review* (London). It may be, says this journal further, that her claims to the notice of history are not less remarkable than Bismarck's.

"She taught her son to develop the wide tastes which he inherited from her. Through her Germany has rid itself of some part of its grosser Philistinism, and not a little through her teaching the naturalness of the alliance between Britain and Germany is slowly becoming a political creed."—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

FOREIGN COMMENT ON THE STEEL STRIKE.

FOREIGN observers of the great steel strike generally prophesy only disaster to American industry from the productive loss already incurred, no matter what the final outcome may be. A number of the continental European journals apparently find comfort for European trade in the assumed setback Uncle Sam has received. It may give America's closest competitors in the Old World a brief breathing spell, says the *Independance Belge* (Brussels). The magnitude of the interests and values involved is almost beyond comprehension, says the *Kreuz-Zeitung* (Berlin). The strike shows that the great capitalists are not the kings they imagined themselves to be. The laboring men aim at demonstrating that they are the real lords of the earth. It is the first sign of the approaching reign of labor demagoguery in America. *The Times* (London) contrasts trades-unionism in England with American labor organizations, much to the disadvantage of the former. It says:

"The strength of our unions lies in sheer obstruction. They do not so much obtain active control for themselves as hamper

and curtail the control of the masters. As the result of their settled policy of restriction and obstruction, English industry has to face the competition of the world with one hand tied behind its back. In every direction the unions operate to curtail effective output. Their power to do this depends upon the invincible ignorance of the simplest rules of political economy which distinguishes many English workmen."

The American workman, continues *The Times*, is better informed. He may strike for higher wages, but he "does not insist upon equal rewards for the competent and the incompetent, nor does he believe that the way to improve his position is deliberately to coerce the better man into equality of production with the worse."

It says in conclusion:

"Our unions teach, and our workmen believe, that a man who does more than the *minimum* of work takes away the employment of some one else. That blighting and immoral creed has no hold upon American workmen. They expect and obtain high wages, which, however, are not relatively so high as they appear to people in this country. But, whatever they get, they give value for the money. Each man does his best and is paid according to results; while here, so far as the unions get their way, each man has to adhere to an average output calculated to suit mediocrity or even incapacity. That is why union leaders do not obtain in America the pernicious power to thwart enterprise that they relentlessly wield in this country, and that is why they have less chance there than here of dictating to the owners of businesses how those businesses shall be carried on."

The Daily Witness (Montreal) claims that a prolonged fight between labor and capital in the United States would be of incalculable benefit to Europe. It says:

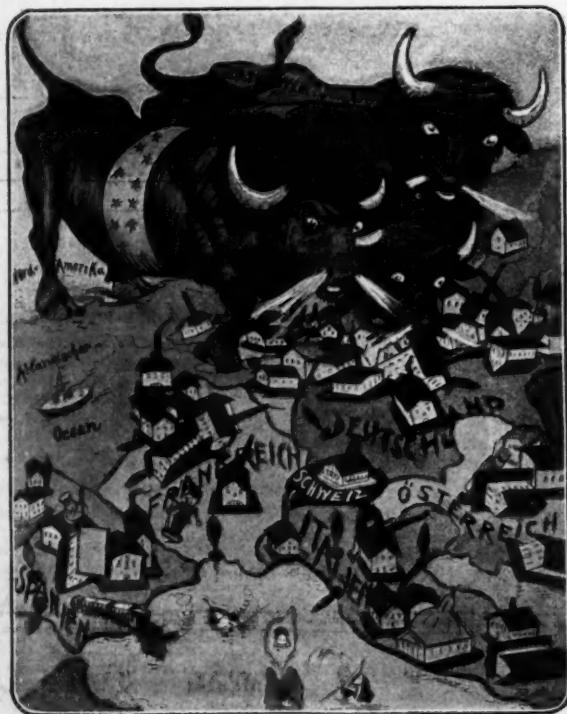
"It is because the ablest men go into the army as officers and only the second-rate engage in commerce on the European continent that the Old World is lagging behind in the race. In America 'soldiering' has never been popular in the European sense, and the brightest minds have employed themselves in inventions and trade. But a war fought to the bitter end between the 'billion-dollar trust' and its vast army of employees would affect the entire commerce of America disastrously and retard her progress indefinitely."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

POLISH VICTORIES OVER GERMANY.

THE Polish journals of this country are rejoicing over the triumphs in art and science achieved in Germany by their compatriots. While German papers are full of articles demonstrating the necessity of throttling the Poles, says the *Dziennik Narodowy* (Polish National Daily, Chicago), these very same papers, in their news columns, are citing facts which prove the inexhaustible force of the Polish spirit, and how vain is the persecution which is carried on in Europe against the Polish people. The German correspondent of this journal says:

"Up to the present only a few of Sienkiewicz's works were translated into German. The public, however, began to demand more and more, so that now a publishing house of Leipsic is undertaking the publication of all his works. It is a curious thing that the collective publication of Sienkiewicz in German will begin with 'The Knights of the Cross,' in which the author has represented with such vividness the awful catastrophe of the Germans. Despite the unpleasant memories in Sienkiewicz's work, all the German papers are launching out into praises of the author, and even such journals as the *Hamburger Nachrichten* and *Echo* (thoroughly Hakatist* papers) emphasize the fact that Sienkiewicz is the most eminent writer of our day."

German appreciation for Polish music is also manifesting itself



THE AMERICAN INVASION.

—Wahre Jacob Stuttgart.

* *Hakatism* is the term applied by the Poles to the coercive measures of the Prussian Government. It was inaugurated by Bismarck, and the name is a combination of the initial letters of three prominent advocates of coercion—Hahnemann, Kenneman, and Tiedemann.

in the press. Speaking of the presentation, in Dresden, of Padrewski's new opera, "Manru," the correspondent says that it met with "a gigantic success, and all papers asserted that it is the work of an epoch, even the Hakatist papers rendering homage to the Polish musician." Not long since, he continues, these same papers warmly praised W. Kossak, one of the best modern Polish painters. In science, too, the Poles have a representative, "for whom the Germans feel such honor that their papers are collecting funds for the erection of a monument to him on Ponape, one of the Caroline Islands. He is the celebrated traveler and scientist, John Kubary, who explored the Pelew, Mulgrave, Caroline, and Samoan Islands."

Poland will never die, concludes the correspondent, when she can achieve such triumphs as these.

"We are stronger and stronger in spirit, and we have more and more certainty of gaining the final victory over the brutal ascendancy of Prussian and Muscovite myrmidons. Formerly, when physical force was the deciding agent in the contests of nations as well as individuals, we routed the Germans garbed in the cloaks of Knights of the Cross, at Plowce, at Grünwald, at Tannenberg, and at other places. To-day, when the force of the fist is passing more and more rapidly into the shade of historical relics—when, instead, the force of the spirit constitutes more and more distinctly the chief value among peoples,—we are gaining one victory after another over our adversaries in all branches of human knowledge. We need not, therefore, sink in hopeless despair over the national fall; we need not lay down our arms before our foes. On the contrary, we can look with pride into the future, as our gigantic forces and abundant resources allow the Polish community not only to keep pace with other nations in the lists of modern contests, but even to outstrip them and win."—*Translations made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

COOPERATIVE INDUSTRY LEGALIZED IN RUSSIA.

IN view of the participation by factory workmen in the recent student demonstrations and disturbances in the Russian university towns, it is interesting to learn that the Government has just extended full legal recognition and sanction to the *artiel*, one of the most characteristic and remarkable institutions that the Russian people have developed. The *artiel*, like the *mir*, or village commune, is regarded by the social reformers as a safeguard against capitalism and plutocracy, and the conservatives have been supposed to view it with distinct hostility. The *mir* is in process of decay, and the Government is contemplating its abolition in favor of individual ownership of land in fee simple. Communal ownership is believed to be an obstacle to agricultural progress and the development of initiative and enterprise, and even the Liberal press is divided upon the desirability of governmental protection and encouragement of it. But the *artiel*—that is, associations of workmen for industrial undertakings where the profits of the employer and contractor are realized and divided by the members themselves, who choose their foremen and leaders—is deemed a progressive institution which may mitigate the evils of capitalism and prevent exploitation of labor by employers. The new law regulates the formation of these associations, but imposes no restriction upon their self-government or their cooperative feature. There is a man in Russia, N. B. Levitsky, who (tho a member of the higher classes) has devoted himself to the organization and encouragement of *artiels*. He is reported to have organized a large number, and all are flourishing. Interviewed by the *Russky Listok* of Moscow, he has made the following statements:

"It is not necessary for a workman to have saved any capital in order to join an *artiel*. It is only necessary that he should be skilled in his trade and honest. The *artiel* is primarily for the benefit of the wage-workers themselves. Its members are their own masters. All the earnings go into the common treasury and

are subsequently divided, each receiving a share corresponding to the value of his work. The profits of the contractor are thus saved, and the middleman is dispensed with. Owners and employers who have jobs for labor deal with the elected head of the *artiel*, and the association makes a contract for the performance of the given task. If the *artiels* accumulate capital, their field of operations is widened, and they are enabled to take contracts involving outlays. But they can start on a small scale.

"Society is a beneficiary of this cooperation, for the cost of buildings and goods is lessened, the contractors' profit not going entirely to labor, but being retained in part by the capitalist or the consuming public. The *artiel* sells its products cheaper than employers of labor. As for the Government, it is naturally interested in the welfare of the working classes and benefits by everything which reduces poverty, dependence, and idleness. Cooperative production means happier and more comfortable life for the workman."

The law provides for incorporation and pecuniary responsibility of these associations. It is suggested by certain writers that the state might advance money to the *artiels* at low rates of interest, just as it advances money to landowners.—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

Strikes in Germany.—The German Government publishes annually an accurate report of the strikes that have taken place within the empire. The *Reichsanzeiger*, the governmental organ of Berlin, has just given the data for 1900, from which we condense the following:

During the year 1900 there were begun in Germany 1,492 strikes (of which, however, 48 were really an inheritance from the preceding year) and 1,433 strikes were brought to an end. By these strikes 7,740 different business concerns were affected and 298,819 persons, and of these persons 46,782 were not yet twenty-one years of age; 2,733 strikes resulted in the complete closing of the concerns affected, and in the others only portions were closed. In the concerns completely closed there were employed, in all, 142,842 people. Of these 21,641 were under twenty-one. In those concerns in which only a part of the plant was affected 52,904 persons were employed, with 7,527 under twenty-one. The greatest number of persons striking at one and the same time was 122,803. In the first quarter of 1901, no less than 243 new strikes were begun, to which, however, are to be added 29 from the preceding year, while 203 strikes were concluded. Of these 203 strikes, 44 can be said to have ended successfully and 112 failed, and this is about the average ratio in the last few years. There were but few "lockouts" in Germany, the report for the first quarter of 1901 giving only 5 of these, affecting 1,325 working-people. Three of these were successful and two failures.—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

FOREIGN NOTES.

ACCORDING to the last Swiss census, says the *Revue Scientifique* (Paris), the number of inhabitants of the republic speaking German has decreased since 1888 from 714 per 1,000 inhabitants to 697, while those speaking French have grown from 218 to 330, those speaking Italian from 53 to 67, and those speaking Romansch have decreased from 13 to 12. The decrease in the German-speaking population is absolute in Neuchâtel, where there has been a falling-off of 5,000. To-day Switzerland counts 2,319,105 speakers of German, 733,220 French, 222,247 Italian, 38,677 Romansch, and 14,087 speaking some foreign tongue. The speakers of Romansch have decreased absolutely 1.5 per cent.

WITH the appointment of Count Gilbert Hohenwart von Gerlachstein as Austro-Hungarian Minister to Mexico, diplomatic relations between the two countries are resumed after a lapse of thirty-five years. Austria had had no relations with Mexico since 1867, when Maximilian, brother of Emperor Francis Joseph, was shot. The *Witness* (Montreal) refers to the attempt to establish a Mexican monarchy and the court-martial of Maximilian as one of the worst blunders of modern times, altho, it points out, since that time Mexico has been a republic more in name than in fact. Porfirio Diaz, under whom Mexico has prospered for twenty-six years, "is a sovereign in all except in name and in succession." The *Politische Correspondenz* (Vienna) thinks that it will be of but little use for Austria and Mexico to agree on a consular and extradition treaty, as Mexico's foreign relations are more than likely to be interfered with by the United States, "under the motive of the Monroe Doctrine fanaticism."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE HOUSE OF ROTHSCHILD.

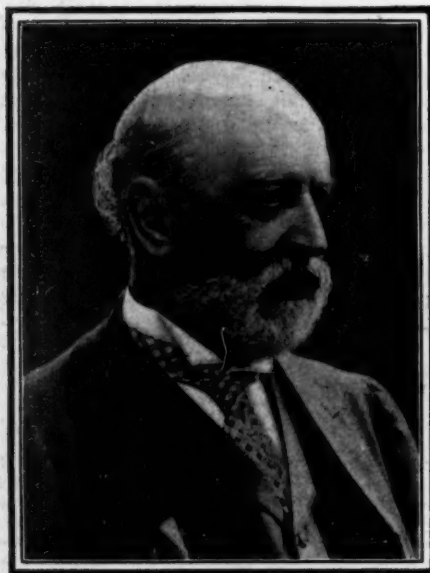
FRANKFORT-ON-THE-MAIN is not generally regarded as a very important financial center, but for more than a century it has been the headquarters of the foremost banking-house of modern times—the Rothschilds. It was in this city that the great establishment had its modest beginning, and since rising to affluence and power and extending its operations to all parts of the globe, the ancient seat has never been abandoned. The following facts regarding the origin and development of the Rothschild house are taken from the August issue of *The Bankers' Magazine* (New York):

The founder of the house was Mayer Anselm (1743–1812), the son of Anselm Moses Bauer, a small Jewish merchant of Frankfort-on-the-Main. His father wished him to become a rabbi, but he preferred business, and ultimately set up as a money-lender at the sign of the "Red Shield" (Rothschild) in the Frankfort Judengasse. He negotiated his first great government loan with Denmark in 1802, and his transactions on behalf of William, Elector of Hesse-Cassel, were so profitable that when he died ten years later he was a very wealthy man. He left behind him five sons, and branches of the business were established in Vienna, London, Paris, and Naples, each being in charge of one of the sons.

The third of these brothers, Nathan Mayer, has generally been regarded as the financial genius of the family and the chief originator of the transactions which have created for the house its unexampled position in the financial world. He came to Manchester about 1800 to act as a purchaser of manufactured goods for his father; but at the end of five years he removed to London, where he found full scope for his financial genius. The boldness and skill of his transactions, which caused him at first to be regarded as rash and unsafe by the leading banking firms and financial merchants, latterly awakened their admiration and envy. By the employment of carrier-pigeons and fast-sailing

boats of his own for the transmission of news, he was able to utilize to the best advantage his special sources of information, while no one was a greater adept in the art of promoting the rise and fall of the stocks.

The colossal influence of the house dates from an operation of his in 1810. In that year Wellington made some drafts which the English Government could not meet; these were purchased by Rothschild at a liberal discount, and renewed to the Government, which finally redeemed at



LORD NATHAN ROTHSCHILD,
Head of the London House.

par. From this time the house became associated with the allied powers in the struggle against Napoleon, it being chiefly through it that they were able to negotiate loans to carry on the war. Rothschild never lost faith in the ultimate overthrow of Napoleon, his all being virtually staked on the issue of the contest. He is said to have been present at the battle of Waterloo, and to have watched the varying fortunes of the day with feverish eagerness. Being able to transmit to London private information of the allied success several hours before it reached the public, he secured an immense profit by the purchase of stock, which had been greatly depressed on account of the news of Blucher's defeat two days previous.

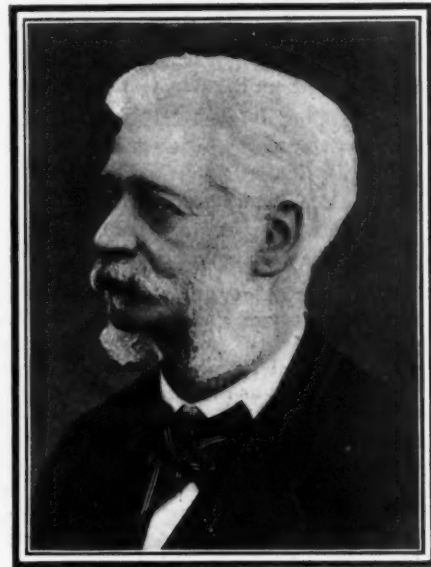
Rothschild was the first to popularize foreign loans in Britain by fixing the rate in sterling money and making the dividends payable in London and not in foreign capitals. Latterly he became the financial agent of nearly every civilized government.

It is said that since 1815 the Rothschilds have raised for Great Britain alone more than \$1,000,000,000; for Austria, \$250,000,000; for Prussia, \$200,000,000; for France, \$400,000,000; for Italy, \$300,000,000; for Russia, \$125,000,000; for Brazil, \$70,000,000.

In 1895 they took \$15,000,000 of the February loan of the United States through the Belmont-Morgan syndicate.

There are at present living eleven barons of the Rothschild name. Of these Nathaniel, Alfred, and Leopold are located in London; Gustav, Edward, Adolphe, and James are in Paris, and Nathaniel, a baron of the Austrian empire, is head of the house in Vienna.

"Maintaining an identity as unchangeable as the Hebrew race to which they belong, and with purposes as inflexible as the ruler of Russia, and a policy as far-seeing as the Church of Rome," says *The Bankers' Magazine*, "the Rothschilds have steadily built up the prestige of their name until it now outranks that of any other, while their fortune has grown year by year until it has attained to colossal figures. Those who have a talent for guessing have set the actual sum at two thousand million dollars, but until some member of the firm displays a confidential mood, the correctness of this conjecture must remain unverified. Whatever the amount may be, its vastness is undoubted, and the accumulations of a century and a half are being swelled each hour by innumerable tributes from every quarter of the world."



BARON GUSTAVE DE ROTHSCHILD,
Head of the Paris House.

CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER.

Gifts to Colleges.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:

In your list of "Unprecedented Gifts to Colleges" (LITERARY DIGEST, vol. xxiii., No. 2, p. 35), Southern institutions of learning are conspicuous mainly by their absence. Perhaps it might not be amiss to add that the Sophie Newcomb Memorial College, the Women's Department of Tulane University of Louisiana, has received very recently, in time for announcement at the last commencement, a bequest of about \$2,000,000, by the will of its founder, Mrs. Newcomb.

NEW ORLEANS.

W. B. SMITH.

Is Mozoomdar a Christian?

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:

In THE LITERARY DIGEST for July 6, in the article entitled "A Modern Hindu Saint," Protap Chunder Mozoomdar is called a Christian. As one who has met Mozoomdar in person, who has heard him speak and who has read his published works, I can not allow this statement to pass uncorrected. Mozoomdar is not a Christian, unless Christianity can be identified with universal religion, and unless belief in the living God is all that is required nowadays to make one a Christian. A great deal more used to be required at one time, perhaps I ought to say a great deal less. Mozoomdar is a member of the Brahmo-Somaj in India. He was a life-long friend and disciple of Keshub Chunder Sen, whose life he wrote. In the latter work Mozoomdar himself speaks of the orthodox Christian missionaries in these words: "Their own Trinitarian orthodoxy was so bigoted, their teachings were so intimately akin to the exploded farrago of Hindu dogmatism, their intolerance was so excessive, so unsympathetic, their denunciations of the national religion were so violent and sweeping, that as religious men and reformers they shared very nearly the same criticism which fell to the lot of the less enlightened apostles of the native faith."

NANTUCKET, MASS.

J. F. MEYER.

LIBRARIAN WANTED!

A wide-awake intelligent man or woman wanted in every city and town to organize branches of The Parmelee New Book Home Delivery Library. A magnificent opportunity to enter into an up-to-date work of great importance, which appeals to every Book Lover.



Andrew Carnegie.

THE munificence of Andrew Carnegie has led to the establishment of Public Libraries throughout the country. The interest created in this library movement has spread over the entire land and there is scarcely a town where the subject of organizing a public library has not been agitated. It is not practicable, however, in every town to erect a building and go to the expense of purchasing and caring for a large collection of books. The beginning must be small and the interest of the people in the library movement increased until the public library becomes the outgrowth. With this idea in mind an organization was started in 1882 for the purpose of forming library clubs of those who would purchase their own books and circulate them among the members. This concern, known as The Parmelee Library, has from this beginning, developed a New Book Home Delivery System which now covers all sections of the country and is rapidly growing, rivaling the famous Mudie Library of London. The growth of this work has been phenomenal.

The Parmelee Library wishes to extend the service until there is a Parmelee New Book Home Delivery Station organized in every city and village in the United States. The adaptability of the system to the needs of even the greatest cities having the best of public library facilities, as well to the community with inferior public service, is shown through the registered circulation in Boston and Chicago since November of last year of over 25,000 volumes of the popular new books. None of the following advantages are afforded under the usual public library service.

1. Members can get the books they want in every branch of literature, without delay or inconvenience. No book is too new to be included in the library. Thus in fiction we find "The Helmet of Navarre," "The Crisis," "The Octopus," "Graustark," "The Puppet Crown," etc. No waiting for a book. The Parmelee Library buys enough copies to meet the demand.

2. The books are always neat, clean and inviting. As soon as a book is soiled it is replaced by a clean copy.

3. The books can be kept as long as desired. No fines. No red tape.

4. Members can take one, two, four or more books a week; also copies of any of the sixty leading magazines; thus supplying the entire reading for the family.

5. The books are delivered at your door and called for in a very pleasing way. 6. A weekly book list, giving names and descriptions of new books added to the library, is regularly sent to members. 7. A 250 page catalog, itself a work of typographical excellence, is furnished members free.

In the usual public library none of the above advantages are offered, and, as a necessary sequence, the perfected Parmelee Libraries are meeting with extraordinary success in the largest cities, having the best public library facilities.

WE WANT A REPRESENTATIVE IN EVERY CITY AND TOWN. The work is one of refinement and affords an agreeable occupation for any man or woman who seeks a high-class appointment. To enroll names of those interested who wish to join, to superintend the weekly receipt of books, and their delivery by messengers to the patrons' homes—these are the duties. We do not need experienced men or women, but those with education and refinement, as well as grit and energy, and who will follow our instructions to the letter. If a person can only give a portion of his or her time, the work can be confined to managing the Library in one's own town. Ladies of the highest standing in cities all over the country are organizing clubs of 25 to 100 members and rendering a favor to their friends. We shall be glad to hear from any persons possessing these qualifications and who are open for an engagement, either as a local Organizer or as traveling Director.

These positions are open to only one person in each town. It will be necessary, therefore, for any reader of this notice who may be interested to make application at once. Such an opportunity to secure a permanent and desirable position is seldom offered.

THE PARMELEE LIBRARY, Main Office, 1841 & 1843 Wabash Avenue, CHICAGO.
PAID UP CAPITAL \$75,000.00. Also BOSTON, PORTLAND, MINNEAPOLIS, DES MOINES, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISVILLE AND INDIANAPOLIS.

CURRENT POETRY.

Blind.

By MARIAN WARNER WILDMAN.

Twas much I know. Before the sky grew dark,
When died the sunlight like a candle blown,
And left my soul to strain and grope and hark,
A captive, locked in some black tower alone;
Before the curtain fell that shut me out
From all that I had been—all I hoped to be,—
There was a glad green world, a joyous shout
Of strong winds blowing o'er a laughing sea;
And there were green-fold fields of heading wheat,
That ran and rippled in the passing breeze;
And there were frail pink roses, wild and sweet;
And there were mist-blue hills and tossing trees;
And over all, a brooding heaven blue,
Where martins circled in the sunset light,
And where the crying killdees flashed and flew,
And great stars shot their glory through the night.
All this I know. And for the power divine
To dream such pictures on the midnight walls
Of this unwindowed prison-tomb of mine,
I bless the Hand from which the blessing falls.
I am content, O God, content to know
The sky still shines above my sightless eyes;
That tho my feet down darkened pathways go,
Unseen, the Brightness round about me lies.
—In August Harper's Magazine.

Good Lodgings!

(From the French of Paul Déroulède.)

Hey, old mother, steady, steady!
I was warm enough already!
You may let the fire go down:
Save a stick, you save a brown!
Cold I was, but now I'm dry!

She, pretending not to hear,
Stokes, and rakes the ashes clear:

"Warm yourself, my soldier, ay!"

Hey, old mother, I've enough!
Keep your wine and ham and stuff:
I had some soup upon the way:
Won't you clear the cloth away?
It's all too good and fine for me!

Still she let's my protest pass,
Cuts my bread and fills my glass:

"Eat you well, my soldier, see!"

Why these sheets, good mother, why?
No, my faith, you mustn't! I
Said the stable—where's the truss—
The bed we make the size of us?
I'll sleep there like a king right through—

But no refusal will she take,
And smooths the sheets, the bed to make:

"Go to bed, my soldier, do!"

Time to march—the day is clear.
So, good-by. But what is here?
My knapsack's heavier than human—
Ah, good hostess, dear old woman!
Why do you spoil me as you do?

Then said the good old woman, half
Inclined to cry, and half to laugh:

"My boy, my boy's a soldier too!"

—Translated by Bernard Miall.

In Tune.

By VIRGINIA WOODWARD CLOUD.

Like to the bee that saves its harbored sweet
From summer's feet,
I fain would draw anew from every flower
My little hour;
Like to the tree that cradles sons of spring
Yet sees each thing



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Fly hence and leave it voiceless, stripped to stand
Neath the wind's hand,
I, treasuring some harmony once strong—
Even unspoken song—
Tho fluted reed be silent, June be past,
Would keep the heart in tune until the last.

—In the August *Cosmopolitan*.

The Awakened Giant.

By ERNEST NEAL LYON.

"I see Chaldean shepherds count the stars,
And Cheops rear his royal pyramid;
The Roman drive his clanging battle-cars
To wreck the wonders that the Grecian did.

"I watched them grow to glory and decline,
They drink the common cup of pygmy men.
But, ah! Another destiny is mine!"
(So laughed the giant—giant even then!)

Serene within his armor of Conceit,
And stupefied by Flattery and Power,
Three thousand years he lay in slumber sweet,
While crafty enemies abode their hour. . . .

The Bear, soft creeping through the unguarded
wall,
Has clutched a province with his greedy paw.
The Eagle hovers o'er the palace hall,
And cities vanish in the Lion's maw.

He slumbers? No! he wakes in wild surmise
Of peril imminent from hidden foe.
Suspicion glitters in his narrow eyes,
And Hatred lightens with a baleful glow.

Will withes subdue the Samson of the East,
Diplomacy avail to hold him thrall?
Beware, O Revelers at the Nations' Feast,
Lest he pull down the Temple on ye all!

—In *Harper's Weekly*.

MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

The Exception.—"When a thing is ended, it's ended," said I, "and that's all there is to it!" My friend smiled. "You forgot," said he, "the revolution in the Philippines!"—*Harper's Bazar*.

Why He Wept.—FIRST OFFICE BOY: "Wot's Chimmy crying fer?"

SECOND OFFICE BOY: "His grandmudder's dead and going ter be buried on a holiday!"—*Puck*.

Overheard After Meeting.—"De preacher say dat de worl' comin' ter a end in thirty days." "Dat bein' de case, dey ain't a nigger in de country dat 'll pay house rent in advance."—*Atlanta Constitution*.

Not Unusual.—"A problem novel? What's the problem?" "There are several, but the one that arrests the attention of the thoughtful reader is, 'How in the world did the author ever manage to get a publisher?'"—*Life*.

A Gentle Hint.—"I hope you appreciate the fact, sir, that in marrying my daughter you marry a large-hearted, generous girl?" "I do, sir (with emotion); and I hope she inherits those qualities from her father."—*Tit-Bits*.

What We are Coming To.—WORKINGMAN'S WIFE (in 1910): "What's happened, Danny?"

HER HUSBAND (desperately): "Well, I've been fired by J. P. Morgan, and there's nobody else in the world to work for!"—*Brooklyn Citizen*.

A Fallacy.—"There is a great deal to be said on both sides of every question," said the broad-minded man. "My dear, sir," answered Mr. Meekton, "it is very plain that you have never engaged in an argument with Henrietta."—*The Washington Star*.

Needed.—"I recommend to future generations," said Uncle Nathaniel, as he put away his bandana handkerchief, "that they encourage the growth of two noses—one to take cold in, the other for general use."—*Harper's Bazar*.

His Audience.—Being unable to fulfil an en-

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gement at a certain town, a lecturer wired: "Impossible to come to-night; give the audience back their money." He received back the following reply: "We have given the audience back his money, and he has gone home perfectly satisfied."—*Til-Bits*.

He was a Policeman.—"I overheard that man who calls on you say something about betting, Bridget; I hope he doesn't frequent pool-rooms?" "Sure, ma'am, he doesn't know there's such a place in New York. He's a policeman, ma'am."—*Yonkers Statesman*.

How He Did It.—MOSES: "How did you make your fortune?"

LEVI: "By horse-racing."

MOSES: "Not betting?"

LEVI: "No, I started a pawnshop just outside the race-course for the people who wanted to get home when the races were over."—*The Philadelphia Press*.

An Interlude.—On a hot summer day, the Rev. Pettit, one of the best-known priests in Milwaukee, was preaching in St. Raphael's Church, while in an adjoining lot a number of boys were playing baseball. He had taken "Heaven and the Means of Reaching There" as the subject of his sermon, and when he came to the end of a passage, he paused in a solemn manner and asked: "How, then, shall we reach heaven?" Just then came floating through the church window, in a high-keyed voice: "Slide like the devil, slide!" It was one of the boy baseball players coaching a base-runner.—*Argonaut*.

A Milliner's Advertisement.

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—CAROLYN WELLS, in *Puck*.

Current Events.

Foreign.

CHINA.

August 19.—Emperor Kwang-Su issues a decree postponing the return of the court to Peking until September 6.

SOUTH AFRICA.

August 20.—Lord Kitchener reports the capture of Commandant de Villiers, and other prisoners.

August 23.—Lord Kitchener reports the capture of a Boer envoy of eighty-six wagons and eighteen prisoners.

August 25.—General De la Rey, the Boer leader, issues a counter proclamation to Lord Kitchener's, announcing the intention of the Boers to continue the struggle.

SOUTH AMERICA.

August 19.—Armed soldiers raid the station of Emperor, on the Panama Railway; continued engagements between Venezuelan and Colombian troops are reported.

August 20.—The battle-ship *Iowa* sails from San Francisco for Panama.

August 21.—President Alfaro, of Ecuador, says

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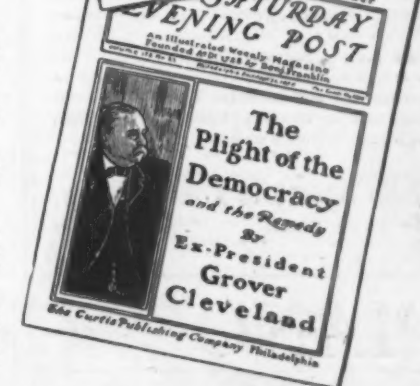
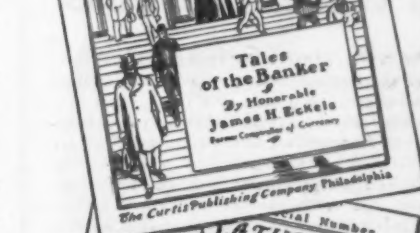
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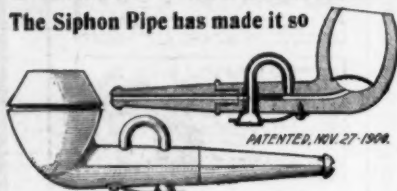
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war between Colombia and Venezuela is improbable, and that the conflicts up to date have been of a transitory nature.

August 23.—The Colombian Government issues a decree suspending payments and authorizing confiscation of supplies for war purposes and the forced levying of loans.

August 24.—Colombian revolutionists threaten the towns of Bocas del Toro and Cocle.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

August 19.—Details of the sinking of the Canadian-Pacific steamer *Islander* near Lynn Canal show a loss of about fifty lives and of \$250,000 in gold.

August 20.—A great fire destroys 500 houses and some of the public buildings of Grand Bourg, French West Indies.

American locomotives show their superiority over English-built engines in hauling heavy loads in Jamaica.

August 21.—The French Ambassador at Constantinople breaks off diplomatic relations with the Porte, alleging duplicity on the part of the Ottoman Government in the dispute over the quays concession; the Bulgarian forces on the Turkish border have been reinforced, and a collision with the Ottoman troops is feared.

The Chilean Congress has refused to grant the money for the representation of Chile at the Pan-American Congress, and it is likely that Chile will not take part.

August 22.—The French Foreign Office expects an amicable settlement of the French claims, and there is a general feeling in Paris that there will be no hostilities and no naval demonstration.

August 24.—Friction between France and Turkey is allayed by the Porte yielding to the most important of M. Constans's demands, in the matter of the quays concession at Constantinople.

August 25.—Holbein, a cyclist, attempts to swim the English Channel by night, and is taken from the water in a perishing condition six miles from Dover.

Domestic.

THE STEEL STRIKE.

August 19.—The Steel Corporation succeeds in opening several of its mills with non-union men, and clashes take place at several points; the Duquesne plant, at first claimed by the strikers, continues at work; 600 employees of the Pennsylvania works of the National Tube Company join the strikers.

August 22.—The Steel Corporation succeeds in partially manning the Star Tin-plate Works, in Pittsburg, with non-union men; President Shaffer expresses willingness to submit the strike to arbitration of Bishop Potter, Archbishop Ireland, or Seth Low.

August 23.—A conference of Amalgamated Association officials and John Mitchell, and other labor leaders, takes place in Pittsburg, without result.

August 24.—A despatch from Pittsburg declares that a committee of the National Civic Federation will carry to officials of the Steel Corporation conciliatory proposals that may end the strike.

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

August 20.—An armed mob drives all the negroes out of Pierce City, Mo., after lynching a man accused of outrage, shooting another negro, and burning another in his home.

August 21.—Señor Vicuna, minister from Chile to the United States, dies in Buffalo.

Iowa Democrats meet in state convention and nominate Thomas J. Phillips for governor.

August 22.—President McKinley issues a proclamation inviting all the nations of the world to take part in the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, to be held at St. Louis.

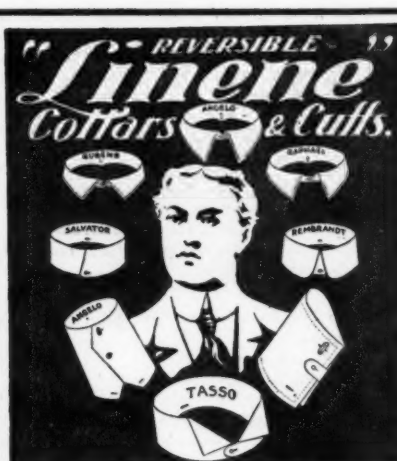
Secretary Hay arrives in Canton and confers with the President on international questions.

August 24.—Treasury officials discover an extensive conspiracy to smuggle Chinese into the United States from Mexico.

August 25.—Henry Noles, a negro convicted of rape and murder, is burnt at the stake in Winchester, Tenn.

AMERICAN DEPENDENCIES.

August 25.—*Philippines*: Four companies of troops are added to the garrison at Manila; the Filipino General Corell, with seventeen officers and seventy-three men, surrenders; F. W. Atkinson's annual report on educational conditions in the islands is made public.



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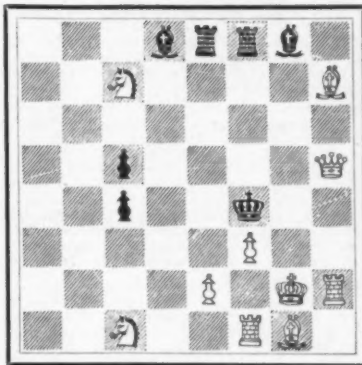
[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

Problem 585.

By T. TAVERNER.

Contributed by S. W. Hampton, Franklin C.C., Philadelphia.

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Ten Pieces.

3 brrb1; 2 S4B; 8; 2p4Q; 2p2k2; 5P2;
4 P1KR; 2S2RB1.

White mates in two moves.

Mr. Taverner is the Chess-editor of *The Football and Field*, and a "specialist in two-movers." *The B. C. M.* (August) publishes his latest problem.

6b1; 6r1; 4p2b; 1p5S; 1R1Pk2S; 1qp
1p3; 2K2Pr1; 4R1BB.

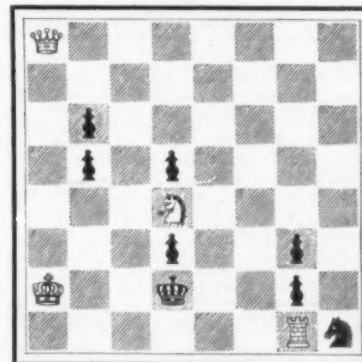
White mates in two moves.

Problem 586.

By E. SAMUEL.

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White—Four Pieces.

Q7; 8; 1p6; 1p1p4; 3S4; 3p2p1; K2k2p
1; 6Ks.

White mates in three moves.

Correspondence Chess.

Thus far only two persons have sent their names for our Correspondence Directory: H. M. Cross, Cattaraugus, N. Y.; R. J. Williams, Ashland, Pa.

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Solution of Problems.

No. 579.

Key-move, Q-R 4.

No. 580.

B-R 4	B-B 2	Q x P, mate
K-R 8	K-R 7	
.....	P-Kt 3, mate
.....	
.....	B-B 2	Q-R 5, mate
K-R 7	P x P	
.....	Q-B 2, ch	Q-B sq, mate
P-R 7	K-R 8 (must)	
.....	Q-R 5!	Q-Q sq, mate
P x P	K-B 8	
.....	B-B 2, mate
.....	
.....	Other	

Both problems solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. B., Bethlehem, Pa.; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; the Rev. G. D., New Orleans; A Knight, Hillsboro, Tex.; the Rev. J. G. Law, Walhalla, S. C.; Dr. B. J. B., Webster Groves, Md.; C. K. Stewart, Montgomery, Ala.; T. Hilgers, Paterson, N. J.; O. C. Pitkin, Syracuse, N. Y.; L. R., Corning, Ark.; Prof. A. Thompson, Calvert, Tex.; Dr. T. H. C., Philadelphia; D. G. Harris, Memphis, Tenn.

579 (only): The Rev. F. H. Johnston, Tarboro, N. C.; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; Dr. H. W. Pannin, Hackett, Ark.; W. J. L., Richmond, Va.; W. W. S., Randolph-Macon System, Lynchburg,

Va.; R. H. R., Boyce, Va.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Can.; H. M. Coss, Cattaraugus, N. Y.; Dr. J. M. Diaz, Santa Fe, N. M.; J. T. G., Womack, Tex.; Dr. G. S. Henderson, Jackson, Mo.; the Rev. P. Read, Des Moines, Ia.; J. H. Loudon, Bloomington, Ind.; Dr. W. B. D. Manitou, Col.; W. H. Sexton, Detroit, Mich.; Dr. W. Petry, Newark, N. J.; the Rev. S. M. Morton, D. D., Effingham, Ill.; the Rev. A. De R. Meares, Ronda, N. C.; J. F. Dunn, Ocala, Fla.; O. C. B., Humboldt, Kan.; Dr. E. E. Harvey, Norwich, Can.; C. D. Whipple, Bear, Idaho.

Comments (579): "Very nice, with pretty mates"—M. M.; "A gem of purest ray serene"—G. D.; "Remarkable for beauty and skill"—A. K.; "Very simple"—J. G. L.; "Masterful. Equal to the best 2-er I ever met with"—F. H. J.; "Excels in those many details which, when combined, constitute a masterpiece. Key-move, economy, balance, and moderate difficultness all contribute to make this a worthy prize 2-er"—W. R. C.; "Not difficult for 1st prize"—Dr. H. W. F.; "Very fair"—W. J. L.

(580): "A beautiful problem. The fine 'try' B-B 7 nearly caught me. The method of defending this 'try' is one of the fine points of the problem"—M. M.; "One of the hardest nuts of the season"—G. D.; "A real problem puzzle"—A. K.; "A peerless problem. The trouble is with the second move"—J. G. L.; "After the key-move if P x P, the problem is similar to the 'Little Teaser' No. 557"—Dr. B. J. B.

The "joke" of this problem, by which so many were caught, is the Knighting of the P. as follows:

B-B 7 B-Kt 3 Now 3 Q-B 2 is not mate,
1. P-R 7 2. P-R 8 (Kt)
for Kt x Q.

In addition to those reported, Dr. G. S. H., the Rev. P. R., J. H. L., Dr. W. B. D., S. M. M., got 577; J. T. G., 575 and 577; C. D. W., and J. F. F., 577 and 578; W. H. S., 578.

Twenty-four States and Canada are represented this week.

No. 582 is puzzling our solvers. Only two persons, thus far, have found the solution.

Morphy and the Modern Masters.

TORONTO, CAN., August 17, 1901.

CHESS-EDITOR LITERARY DIGEST:

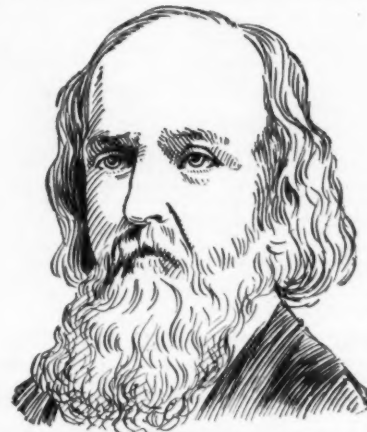
On reading in the current number of THE DIGEST an article headed "Morphy or Lasker," by Franz Drobny in the *Schachzeitung*, I was struck by the unreasonable conclusion to be drawn from statements made by the author. Drobny says: "I am confident that if Morphy, with his Chess-strength of 1859, were to be pitted to-day, not merely against Lasker, but against any one of the modern masters, he would be beaten unconditionally." Further along he refers to "the enormous disparity between Morphy and the other masters of the very first rank of his day." This latter statement is true, for the records of Morphy's play prove it; but if Drobny's first statement is correct, that any of the masters of to-day could beat Morphy unconditionally, what then may we conclude to be the relative strength of the masters of to-day and such players as Anderssen, Lowenthal, and Horowitz, since there was an "enormous disparity" between them and Morphy? Why, the inference is plain that such players were not masters at all, according to the present standard, because any of the modern masters could give them odds. If Showalter, for instance, could beat Morphy (and Drobny says he could) as easily as Morphy beat Anderssen, then certainly Showalter could give Anderssen at least Pawn and move. Anderssen would not be strong enough to play at the last board in the cable-match. Does anybody who is familiar with Anderssen's Chess believe this? Hardly. There is not such a great disparity between the masters of forty years ago and now. In 1866, when Steinitz reached the zenith of his Chess-powers, he won his match against Anderssen by a score of only 3 to 6. The truth is, Anderssen and the others would play just as creditable Chess now as they did then, and the disparity between Morphy and the other masters of his day would very likely apply equally as well with the modern masters. C. A. BUCK.

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